

THE WAGGLE

Newsletter of the Gold Coast Regional Beekeepers Inc.

'Furthering knowledge in Beekeeping by assisted learning and practical experience'

www.gcrb.org.au

Edition: May 2021

<p>President: <i>Greg Foster</i> Mob: 0409 279 164 ~~~~~</p> <p>Secretary: <i>Drew Maywald</i> Mob: 0414 717 716 ~~~~~</p> <p>Treasurer: <i>Peter Handy</i> Mob: 0448 195 020</p>	<p>Gold Coast Regional Beekeepers Inc. E: gcrb.president@beekeepers.asn.au E: gcrb.secretary@beekeepers.asn.au E: gcrb.treasurer@beekeepers.asn.au E: gcrb.membership@beekeepers.asn.au E: gcrb.editor@beekeepers.asn.au</p>	<p>Your voice in local beekeeping PO Box 389, Nerang, Qld, 4214</p> <p>Next Meeting: Sat 15 May 21</p> <p>08:30am - Hive Inspection</p> <p>10:30am – How to read the Hive Entrance with Kevin Finn</p>
--	---	--

President's Chat

***What's Flowering
in the region***

Hive Report

**New
Members**

For Sale



From the Editor	2
President's Chat	3
Hive Report.....	3
April Meeting	3
World Bee Day	4
Joke of the Month.....	4
Honey Competition	4
New Members	4
For Sale	5
What's Flowering in the Region.....	5
Swarm Register	6

The Waggle is the journal of the Gold Coast Regional Beekeepers Inc. It is distributed to members monthly. The editor will consider adverts from businesses relevant to beekeepers to run free of charge where they contain a discount or special offer to GCRB members. Please email gcrb.editor@beekeepers.asn.au

From the Editor

Where has the year gone already? Here we are halfway through May with ANZAC Day and Mother's Day already in the rear-view mirror. To all the Veterans I hope you managed to catch up with old mates and commemorate the day appropriately. To all the Mothers I hope you had a great day and your children gave you the love you deserve every day.

Of course, our hives also have a mother in them and without her our hives would not function so Happy Mother's Day to all the Queen Bees.

For all those planning on showing honey at the Mudgeeraba Show please note the show has changed dates from June to 17-19 Sep 21.

I am still looking for articles and photos for the Waggle so if you have a story about a success or failure or handy hack to do with your hives that you would like to share with other members, I would gratefully receive it. I am happy to receive it either as an email or in hand writing or whatever form you would like to submit it in.

As a final note for this month, I would like to welcome all the new members to the Club. Please come to our monthly meetings and get to know a great bunch of people. We have people of all levels of expertise; from people with over 40 years of experience right down to the novice.

See you at the next meeting

Yours Aye

Windy

President's Chat

Too much information is never enough. In beekeeping you either go about it the right way by joining a club and becoming an active member and learn by attending club days, and interacting with experienced beekeepers, or you go down the wrong path and go it alone by picking up bits and pieces from online sources and books to set your hive/s up for a high chance of failure and eventual expense to you.

As we know, there is also a legal requirement to register your hive with biosecurity Queensland and display your HIN (Hive Identification Number) on each hive.

As a club, we need to be vigilant in promoting this to our members, and likewise they need to be promoting this message when communicating with others in the community, by encouraging other backyard beekeepers they may know who aren't yet members of a club, to join one. Everyone benefits if all beekeepers are associated with a club, they learn about disease and parasite detection and how to be confident whilst working their bees to name a few. We benefit by their contributions to the beekeeping community and early detection of diseases which can be crucial in halting the spread and ultimate inconvenience and cost to other beekeepers.

On the 3rd & 4th of June, fellow club member Fiona Fernie and I will be attending the QBA (Queensland Beekeepers Association) AGM and State Conference on behalf of the club.

I'm looking forward to attending this event and continuing my learning journey with regards to everything beekeeping. Fiona and I will be providing a report on the proceedings of these functions in the June Waggle.

On Saturday the 5th of June the QBA will be hosting a Field Day. This has been and continues to be promoted by Drew within our club. This is a great opportunity for all

members to immerse themselves in a beekeeping overload session with a full day of interesting stuff on hand. I encourage you to set some time aside on the day to check it out. Drew will be promoting the day in more detail in the weeks ahead.

I look forward to seeing you at our next club morning on the 15th, until then, keep learning.

Greg

"The Appy Apiarist"



Hive Report

Unfortunately, there is no Hive report for this month except to say the hives were opened and a number of frames were extracted.

April Meeting

We had another very successful meeting this morning at the Vietnam Veterans Complex in Nerang. Although our numbers were down everyone enjoyed themselves and learnt a lot.

Unfortunately, John Polley was not well so he was not able to do his presentation on preparing honey for show and competition.

Thanks to Fiona Fernie who demonstrated how to do the sugar shake test during the hive inspections. It was successful in that no Varroa mite was detected.

During the hive inspection we replaced the flow hive super so that we could do some repairs to it. Thanks to Mike and John for their

help with the hive inspections and to all other members who gave a helping hand.

After the hive inspection we went inside and listened to a very informative talk by Fiona about Varroa mite in Scotland. Those members present certainly learnt a lot. Thanks, Fiona, for stepping in at such short notice.

Our Raffle winners were John Crawford (V's Bees voucher), Mike Hynes (V's Bees voucher) and Arthur Sharp (sugar shake test kit). Thanks to V's Bees who donated one of the vouchers and to Windy for selling the raffle tickets.

We all enjoyed a great sausage sizzle expertly cooked by Roger May, thanks Roger.

See you next meeting.



World Bee Day

As mentioned in a recent email from our Secretary, the club intends to hold a stall at Carrara Markets between 07:00am – 3:00pm Sat 22 May 21. If you can spare an hour to help operate the stall it would be greatly appreciated.

Additionally, you can sell your own products (honey, wax, etc) at the stall; however, it is asked that you donate 10% of your price to the Club to help cover the cost of the day.

Please get back to either Greg (gcrb.president@beekeepers.asn.au) or Drew (gcrb.secretary@beekeepers.asn.au) if you can assist on the day.

Many thanks

Jokey of the Month

My son asked me "Daddy, why do bees stay in the hive during winter"?

I smiled and answered "Swarm"

Honey Competition

At this April GCRB Committee Meeting, the committee decided to hold a club honey competition in December 2021. We are planning to make this an annual club event. The Secretary will send more details and rules as soon as they are finalised, but the classes for the competition will be:

Light Honey – Open to all members

Medium Honey – Open to all members

Dark Honey – Open to all members

Novice Beekeeper Honey - for any new member who has joined the club within the last 24 months

Junior Beekeeper Honey – for any member below the age of 15

Beeswax – Open to all members

Baked Goods or slices – Open to all members or members of their family.

The Baked goods or slices must be made with honey. Fiona has kindly given us two recipes for a slice called Honey Tablet (it is delicious), and a recipe for Honey, Date and Walnut Loaf.

Please get back to Drew at gcrb.secretary@beekeepers.asn.au if you would like a copy of either recipe, or have other honey recipes you would like to share.

New Members

Welcome to the following new members!!

Angelique Sheather,
Pat MacAnally,
Gus MacAnally, and
Don Hewett

Please make them welcome!!

For Sale

Uncapping System. 3-piece uncapping system. Never been used. I have constructed a smaller system so no need for the larger shop bought system. Will sell for \$50. Contact Windy on 0414 617 716 or email windy738@hotmail.com

Polystyrene Containers. Containers with lids. Most of them have had cryovac seafood in them on ice. They are 200 mm deep and 575 x 385 mm, and make ideal storage containers or simple solar wax melters.



Selling for \$0.50 cents each. Contact Drew Maywald on 0400 959 043 or email at drewmaywald@gmail.com

What's Flowering in the Region

During May flowering plants continue to support our bees throughout the region. These include, but not limited to, the following:

Banksia – This tree provides ample nectar and pollen for bees, and often flowers in association with paperbark trees. Honey colour is dark amber.



Black Sheoak – This tree provides a useful supply of pollen. It is not a honey source.



Broad-leaved Ironbark – The honey from this tree has a medium density and mild sweet flavour, while useful quantities of pollen can be obtained to assist in maintaining colony strength.



Hickory Wattle – Apiaries sited near Hickory Wattle may obtain a good supply of pollen; however, the light-yellow pollen is poor food and doesn't proportionally simulate brood raising.



Swarm Register

Since adding this article in the last edition, I have had three queries regarding swarm removals but unfortunately have not been able to help those making the enquiry as no members have registered to collect swarms.

Remember, starting your apiary with a swarm is a lot cheaper than purchasing a nuclei or package! The girls are prepared to get up and running in a new home straight away, and the current queen is still capable of laying brood.

So, if you wish to register you must be prepared to head out to collect a swarm at short notice. This includes being contactable and have your gear ready to go.

To register I will need the following information:

Name, mobile number, suburb and whether you are willing to collect swarms out of walls or not. Please email your details to me at windy738@hotmail.com.

Additionally, you can also register on the ABA website at <https://www.beekeepers.asn.au/swarms> if you wish to collect swarms.

GCRB IS PROUDLY AFFILIATED WITH THE



**Amateur
Beekeepers
Association**
NSW

The club would like to thank Rachael & Vern for their generous support

www.vsbees.com.au

V's Bee's
Beyond Beekeeping

Monday - Friday [8am - 5pm]
Saturday [8.30am - 12pm]

Beekeeping Supplies

Unit 3 / 90 Spencer Road
Nerang
Located Inside
Allied Bearings & Seals

0415 192 662
vsbeesqld@yahoo.com



2021 GCRB Committee

Position	Incumbent	Phone No	Email
President	Greg Foster		Gcrb.president@beekeepers.asn.au
Treasurer	Peter Handy		Gcrb.treasurer@beekeepers.asn.au
Secretary	Drew Maywald		Gcrb.secretary@beekeepers.asn.au
Membership	Julie Hewetson		Gcrb.membership@beekeepers.asn.au
Committee	Mike Hynes		m.j.hynes043@gmail.com
	Fiona Fernie		ferniefiona@gmail.com
	Roger May		Rogmay45@gmail.com