

- **FIELD DAY: Sunday—
9 August 2015**
- **MONTHLY MEETING :
Thurs 20 July 2015—
Spring Management, gen-
eral discussion/questions
and issues**
- **Splitting a Native Hive—
30 August 2015 at 3.30pm
at Ian Beier's house—see
page 5**
- **Club Membership NOW
due**
- **AGM—September meet-
ing**

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

President's Report	1
July meeting report	2
Mt Gravatt Show Re- port	3
Coming Up	4
• Next club field day	
• Next club meeting	
Club Matters	4
Membership Form & Equipment Hire	5
Positions Vacant	5
Splitting a Native Hive field day	5
Minutes –Members Only	5

BEE INFORMED



VOLUME 2, ISSUE 21

AUGUST 2015

Welcome to Bee Informed for August 2015. Well after telling you all last month that I was leaving my girls well alone and giving them a nice break from me bugging them, trouble struck in the form of a swarm!

I got a call at work on Monday afternoon just gone (3 August) at around 5pm to tell me that my neighbours had a swarm of bees in their lemon tree. No prizes for guessing whose bees they probably were! Anyway, the swarm was absolutely massive. God only knows what I am going to find left in my hive that I suspect was the culprit when I check it this coming Saturday.

As I have a really full week with meetings at work, I had two choices: 1. Ignore it and let it swarm off elsewhere and hopefully not into the neighbours garage or verandah or 2: try and catch it. Being the good beekeeper that I am, I decided to catch it - that night - at 8pm! I don't know if you have ever tried to catch a swarm at night - my advice is DON'T!!

I copped about 20 stings to both ankles and yes I had my suit on and shoes and socks - but they stung me through my socks, through my suit and through my gloves. They were absolutely not happy. Not much flying involved - just lots of crawling and lots of stinging. After about an hour of trying to get them in the hive box I set up under the tree they were in, with about 20,000 bees on the ground, half in the box, half out of the box, half on me (stinging me all the time) and some still in the tree - I called it a night. I figured they would either be there in the morning or not (me secretly hoping they were not!). I checked at 6am when I went to feed the chooks, and they were still all over the shop, totally disorientated. I told the neighbour I had a meeting till about 11am but would get back around lunch time and try and sort them out. When I got back at lunch time, most of them were in the box!! I threw in 3 frames with just foundation and 2 stickies. Left them till 5.30 that night. Went back, closed the gate on the entry, loaded them into the ute and relocated them to Corinne's house. Easy peasy - NOT!! I am still limping with swollen ankles looking like I am suffering from Elephantitis!

I hope your month in the apiary is more enjoyable!

President's Report—Ray Goldsworthy

Good to see a good roll-up for the last meeting and a lot of interest shown in the top bar hive shown by Paul Wood from Brisbane Backyard Bees. Thank you Paul for an interesting demonstration. Thanks also to Peter Hattendorf for arranging for Paul to come down and bring one of his hive to clearly demonstrate how they work.

Member, Corinne Jordan-Ivers, has generously donated a top bar hive (minus bees) for our Association to set up at our field day venue with our other club hives. At future meetings and field days I encourage discussion amongst us all on how to introduce bees to this new hive.

Thank you to all who helped set up, man and dismantle the Associations stand at the Mt Gravatt Show. Special thanks to Marion, Col and Penny for their tireless effort with the honey competition and our club stand at the show.

Alan Teske has presented his resignation as Field Day Officer. I would like to thank Alan, on behalf of the club, for his past contribution at field days. Future field days will now be run as a club activity with input from members welcome.

Next meeting will be a series of topics on "What you need to be doing getting ready for spring". These sessions will only run for approx. 10 minutes each to cover several subjects. If any member would like to give a talk on a particular aspect of this subject, please contact me prior to the meeting.

Hope to see you at the next meeting.

Ray Goldsworthy

Monthly Meeting—July

July's meeting was great! The presentation on Top bar hives given by Paul Wood from Brisbane Backyard Bees was excellent. As Ray advised in his report on page 1, the club was recently given a Top bar hive by Corinne Jordan-Ivers (thanks Corrine!!) and I am really looking forward to setting it up and working it a monthly field days. If you are interested in starting up a Top bar, make your way to the monthly field days (second Sunday of every month—more details later in this newsletter).

One our members, Peter Hattendorf from Birkdale, who has a Top bar hive, wrote the following article:

I enjoy having my top bar hive as it gives me great pleasure to know that I am looking after the bees in a more 'bee-friendly' way. For me it is not about how much honey I can collect, but providing a safe haven for the bees.

The pay-off is that, yes, I get a bit of honey, much more than I can ever use; and have the joy of giving it to friends and family.

Thanks to Paul Wood from **Brisbane Backyard Bees**, who presented an interesting lecture (16th July 2015) on beekeeping using a 'top bar' hive. This method of beekeeping is new to many members so Paul gave everyone the *lowdown* on how it works.

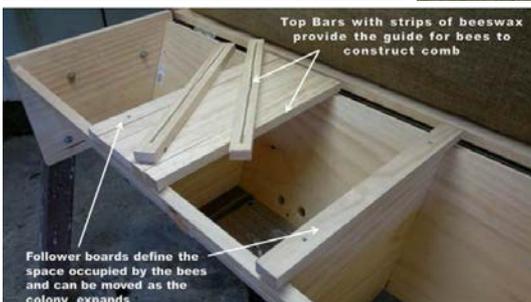
Since discovering the joys of beekeeping in his own Brisbane backyard, he now encourages everyone to do the same. He builds and supplies top bar hives with bees, and provides the necessary mentoring to get beginner beekeepers started. Brisbane Backyard Bees is about restoring the relationship between people and bees. Paul would like to see a shift from monoculture-based beekeeping where one person has 1000 hives to a situation where one family has one hive and that hive is nurtured, respected and enjoyed naturally, where every bee is valued for the amazing creature that it is and the valuable services it provides.

A healthy Brisbane bee population will contribute to the health and resilience of bees in Australia and worldwide and will consequently enrich and support our healthy food systems. This can be achieved by providing what our agricultural systems are struggling to provide for the bees - a natural, low interference hive with minimal manipulation/standardisation/exploitation, diversity of forage, a chemical-free environment and a stable location.

Over 30% of the food we eat requires a bee to pollinate the plant. Bees are struggling worldwide, due to a combination of disease, agricultural (and garden) chemicals. The health and wellbeing of the honeybee is best supported when she has access to a diversity of bee-forage and Brisbane has an abundance of year-round forage.

A top bar hive is a great piece of backyard furniture – sympathetic to the bees natural lifestyle and with an observation window, provides an insight into the amazing world of this super organism.

Anatomy of a Top Bar Hive



What a great article—thanks Peter!

Mt Gravatt Show report — by Rod Beahan

The weekend of the 25th and 26th of July saw the 100th year of the Mt Gravatt show, with the Club again manning a static display. Sales were brisk with all the candied Honey sold on Saturday, while the remaining product sold out on Sunday, despite an emergency resupply run on Saturday evening, so were anticipating a good profit.

Being out in the open this year instead of locked away in the main building seems to have generated a good showing with plenty of interest. Barry was doing a magic job explaining the ins and out of a hive the life cycle of bees and the extraction process and the life cycle. The biggest surprise for myself was the number of Kids that were able to find the Queen with only a little prompting.

The general interest certainly appeared greater this year with more people familiar with the issues currently facing our bee's, (A theme that I have noticed repeated in general conversation with people). There also seemed to be a lot less questions about native bees, though a number of people I spoke to mentioned TopBar hives and we had a number of people mention and ask about the Flow Hive. Another item which got mentioned a lot was the documentary "What's Killing Our Bees?" Which is available on the SBS ondemand website. Whilst set in Britin it is interesting and provides a lot of background on the issues facing bees in other parts of the world.

And the thing that I learnt at the show? A new way to find the Queen, think of her as a Sow suckling her young (Which are the attendant bees). May-bee these pictures will help.....



I tried it out on a Friend who struggled to find her, until I suggested thinking of a nursing Sow.

Picture of queen borrowed from: <http://ucanr.edu/blogs/blogcore/postdetail.cfm?postnum=6564>

Picture of Sow borrowed from: http://www.123rf.com/photo_36584927_piglets-sucking-milk-from-a-sow-pigs-in-a-farm.html

Editors note: good analogy with the sow suckling her young Rod. I am going to try it out next time.

Mt Gravatt Show 2015—Apiculture Section Results

<u>Category</u>	<u>First</u>	<u>Second</u>	<u>Third</u>
Frame of Honey	Jean Ward	Marion Samuels	Barry Fanning
Wax Block 500 g	Marion Samuels	Marion Samuels	Marion Samuels
Wax Novelty 500 g	Bridget Barber	Marion Samuels	Marion Samuels
Light Amber Honey	Marion Samuels	Bridget Barber	Barry Fanning
Medium Amber Honey	Marion Samuels	Jean Ward	Barry Fanning
Dark Amber Honey	Barry Fanning	Marion Samuels	Jean Ward
Creamed Honey	Marion Samuels		
Honey with Comb	Marion Samuels		
Candied Honey Fine	Barry Fanning	Barry Fanning	
Candied Honey Coarse	Barry Fanning		
Novice	No entry		

Club Matters

Membership Reminder

Membership Fees are due from 1st July 2015. Members can either pay at the next meeting or use the form on page 4 of this newsletter. Don't forget, if you are doing a direct deposit, you must put your surname as a reference otherwise I can't match up your payment with you—and the bank is not allowed to give me any information due to privacy laws.

AGM 2015

Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) is scheduled to be held at the September 2015 meeting. In accordance with Bayside Beekeepers Association articles of association, at the AGM all the members of the Management Committee shall retire from office, but are eligible upon nomination for re-election if they so desire. Office Bearer and Committee Positions are: **President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, two committee officers**

Some existing committee members have stated that they will not be re-nominating for the position they currently hold, so **please give some serious thought to taking on a role to benefit your club**. Please feel free to contact any of the office bearers or committee members to seek information on any of the roles.

All nominees must be must be financial to nominate, second, vote and accept at the time of the AGM being held.

The process for nominating for a Committee position is:

- any two members may nominate any other member. Nominations shall be in writing and signed by the member and his/her proposer and seconder and lodged with the Secretary at least fourteen days before the AGM.
- A list of the candidates' names shall be advised to all members seven days immediately preceding the AGM.
- Voting forms shall be prepared (if necessary) containing the names of the candidates and each member present at the annual general meeting shall be entitled to vote for the candidates nominated.
- If, at the commencement of the AGM, there is insufficient candidates nominated, nominations may be taken from the floor of the meeting.

There is still about a month and a half left before the AGM to allow time for nominations and for members to renew their membership.

Next Monthly Meeting—Thurs 20 August 2015 at Indigiscapes, commencing 7.30 pm

LOCATION: Redlands Indigiscapes 17 Runnymede Road, CAPALABA (All Welcome)

The August meeting will be a number of short talks by several members on subjects relating to spring management. If any members would like to give a short talk on their preparation of spring management, can you please contact Ray to discuss.

I hope to see you there.

NEXT CLUB FIELD DAY WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY 9 AUGUST 2015 commencing 8.30 AM

ALL WELCOME Members and Guests are able to have “hands on experience” working the club's hives. Start time of 8.30am. Gates locked at 9:00am. Be there, Rain Hail or Shine.

WHERE: Redlands Research Station DPI&F via Delancey St, Cleveland. Front gate accessed via Delancey Street, Cleveland. **Spare Bee hats and gloves are provided for non-members so don't be shy.** Activities will include inspection of Club hives for Brood Disease and maybe Honey Extraction. Members and Guests will be provided with tea and coffee at the end of the session (approx Noon).

PLEASE NOTE: All members are to wear veils at the field day, this sets a good example to all, regardless of experience. Personal gloves are NOT to be worn unless they are disposable. This rule is enforced to avoid possible disease threat in the club's and your own hives. **ALL** members must supply their own protective clothing (if they have some) in clean condition.

Bayside Beekeepers Association Inc.

PO BOX 576
CAPALABA
QLD 4157

YOUR COMMITTEE CONTACT DETAILS

President: Ray Goldsworthy
Phone: 0409 134 526 or 07 32078151
E-mail: lizray74@gmail.com

Vice President: Barry Fanning

Secretary: Marion Samuels
Phone: 3206 2048
E-mail: samuelscwme@ozemail.com.au

Treasurer: Sue Campbell
Phone: 3824 4881
E-mail: scampbell@railcrc.net.au

Newsletter Editor: Sue Campbell
Phone: 3824 4881
E-mail: scampbell@railcrc.net.au

Club Hives Officer:
Tony Gallagher Phone: 0413 430 998

Equipment Officer:
Colin Samuels Phone: 3206 2048

CLUB EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE FOR HIRE:

- 2 Frame Honey Extractor
 - Wax Melter
 - Electric DeCapping Knife
 - Frame Display Unit
 - Ten Frame Jig (Holds frames in place for faster nailing)
- \$2.00 per hire**

NATIVE BEES

One of our club members, Ian Beiers, has issued an invitation to all members to view the splitting of 2 native hives at his house on August 30 at 3.30pm.

Anyone interested in getting started in natives, or just interested in native bees in general, should make their way to Ian's place. The last time he hosted this event was a great success!

Ian's address is 11 Wisbech Place, Thornlands. Ph: 0411704642

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP AND MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Surname.....

Given name.....

Address.....

Address.....

Postcode.....

Home Phone.....

Mobile Ph.....

Email

I hereby apply for membership to **Bayside Beekeepers Assoc. Inc.**

Signature:.....

Date:.....

Please return this form together with your payment of **\$25.00**(direct deposit, cheque or money order) to:

Treasurer, Bayside Beekeepers Assoc Inc

PO Box 576

CAPALABA, QLD 4157

Direct Deposit details: Heritage Building Society

BSB 638 080

Account Number 6473547

Account name: Bayside Beekeepers Assn Inc

Please put your surname in as reference details.



POSITIONS VACANT

Beekeeper /Assistant Casual.

Looking to form a register of people who are available on a casual basis to assist in a Queen Breeding operation based in Carbrook Queensland catching queens or assisting to catch queens between August 2015 and April 2016. Must be physically fit, able to drive to sites located in Redland Shire Council and have some previous beekeeping experience. Cannot be allergic to bees. If this is you please email your details including days likely to be available to thebeelady@bigpond.com or Phone 0400833017 for further information.

Beekeeper /Shed Hand Wanted

Looking for a person one day a week 6-8 hours approx. (day flexible) to attend to shed based duties in a Queen Rearing operating based in Carbrook. Cleaning, repairing, painting, melting capping's into wax, stripping old frames, organising shed, mowing, edging around beehives, delivering and picking up supplies etc. Must have drivers licence, be physically fit, some previous beekeeping experience would be an advantage, cannot be allergic to bees. Interested persons please contact Corinne 0400 833 017 for further details or email thebeelady@bigpond.com.

For Sale

200 litre Wax Melter

Queen Cell Incubator – homemade by Ray Millar has two shelves and is similar to the size and dimensions of a bathroom mirror cabinet.

Old Galvanized two frame honey extractor.

Interested persons please contact Corinne 0400 833 017 for further details or email thebeelady@bigpond.com.