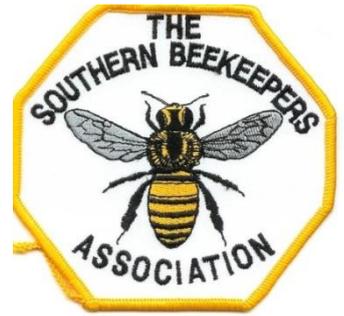




honey elements

The FLOW



***The Official Newsletter of
The Southern Beekeepers Association
(Qld) Incorporated***

The Editor:

Peter Salomon

August 2015 email salomonp@bigpond.com ph.46987489

The meetings of the Southern Beekeepers Association are held on the Third Wednesday of each Month (except December) in the Dr. Price Room, No 6 Little Street commencing at 7.30 pm.

all welcome

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 19 august 2015

Welcome to the August newsletter. I am taking on the job as editor on my own now so with a bit of outside help it can be spruced up a bit and will probably change every month. Anything that you want to put in or change or send pictures or information from the internet, my outside help will do this for me. My email is salomomp@bigpond.com

This letter will be going out quicker than usual as I am heading off soon to do a simpson desert crossing and hoping to pull into a few bee yards in the Quilpie area

At our general meeting we elected Glen Tucker as our new president. We are looking forward to having Glen and thank Tom for the last 4 years as president. He has been a real gentleman but he reckons he's past his "use by date".

I have offered to act as a sort of moderator to check what goes onto the Facebook. Sometimes information picked up from the internet and other sources is wrong, practises are actually illegal or just downright embarrassing. So if you have any doubts, email me and we can have a look at it.

New queens are arriving in September so we might be able to have new members looking at the queens being introduced.

We have been offered bees for sale and a site at East Greenmount where the owner has planted a lot of bee trees. Tom is looking into it and it sounds like it may be a good investment for the club to assist new beekeepers. One thing worth thinking about is having a regular field day/instruction day every month with senior members rostered on.

The idea of an interclub organisation being formed was met with enthusiasm. Everyone looks forward to field days and outings, whether it be the amateur clubs or the Q.B.A.

It was a surprise to hear that a huge percentage of beekeepers aren't registered. Many new beekeepers don't know that registration is compulsory. It's for our own good so if you have any queries, contact our secretary Nev.

There are a few hundred old ABK journals from as far back as the 1970's floating around amongst the members so if you have read them, bring them to the next meeting so someone can grab a handful. They are a wealth of information and history written by legendary commercial beekeepers, DPI officers, amateur beekeepers, queen breeders etc. You will get more practical information for our Australian industry than you will ever get off the internet or by reading books from America or Europe.

Some pieces of interest are

- A Canberra ranger came across a hive of bees with the drones having yellow eyes and brown eyes. Normal drones have almost black eyes. Apparently these drones are a result of a mutation and do not survive long on their own. They appeared to be blind.
- Beekeepers working the forestry at Inglewood noticed bees carrying unusually large loads of what appeared to be white pollen, but they were actually carrying Lerps. These lerps are the outer protective covering of a minute insect nymph that feeds on the sap of trees and exude a carbohydrate secretion from their anus. The bees store it in the cells with nectar and is said to taste sweet.

- In 1980 a volcanic eruption of Mt. St. Helens belched fine ash that killed 12,000 bee colonies.
- A beekeeper exhibited in an agricultural show in the queen bee and progeny class, a frame of bees with American foul brood. Another beekeeper was teaching adult beekeeping classes and did not know he had American foul brood in his own hives.

Freezing, windy conditions up here on the downs mean not much bee activity at the moment. Bees are generally in very good condition with stores on and the coming spring looking good with trees still hanging onto bud. Winter is about the only time you can count on having 100% queenright hives, that is if you have done the correct autumn preparation. That includes good queens, stores left on, space kept down to a minimum and correct siting of hives. The rest of the year means swarming, supersedure, disease rearing its head in the spring and accidental queen death through hive manipulation.

Spring is the time to get some experience splitting hives before they swarm. Some proven methods for beginners to rear their own queens are

- Insert a splitter board between the two boxes and lift half of the brood frames up with bees. The queen will be in either one of the boxes and the queenless one can rear their own
- Put half the brood frames with bees into a nuc box and leave it beside or in front of the hive, take it to a different spot in the yard so the old field bees will return to the hive, making queen acceptance easier, or the ultimate is to take the nuc to another site. If the nuc has to rear a queen, it needs to be left in the yard where all the drones are, for mating.
- If you want to know which side of the hive the queen is in, a simple method is to insert a vertical sheet of black plastic to seal the queen off to one side but the workers can get to both sides through the excluder. Three days later, one side will have no eggs and that side will be queenless.

President: Glen Tucker 46155619 **Treasurer** Trish McNaughton Phone 0408140070 **Past President:** Tom Morgan Phone 46155023 **Vice President:** John Pollock Phone 46308687
Secretary: Nev Hunt Phone 46152345

Committee

Glen Bartowski Phone 46356007 Errol Siebuhr Phone 4630878

List of Financial Members 2014

Name	Phone No
Alan and Bet Campbell	0419 671 433
Andrew Turnbull	0408 327 440
Ann and Tom Elliott	0421 023 293
Ben and Karen Howland	0417 770 458
Bill King	4696 6449
Brian Madeley	0429 134 490
Chris Mc Rae	0438 173 958
Christine & Peter Cary	46663709
Damian Arthur	0448 180 362
Dave Armstrong	0452 491 765
David Curless	0421 860 235
David Leddington-Hill	0409 475 715
Deborah Jones	
Denise Watson	4632 9251
Errol & Doreen Siebuhr	4630 8780
Glen Bartowski	4635 6007
Gary Hanlon	4693 7187
Gavin Vince	0437 267 472
Gilbert Bailey	0438 307 282
Glen Tucker	4615 5619
Guy D'mellow	0413 700 286
Ian Hall	4696 2770
Jim Shipway	0417 411 682
Jim Reimers	46370408
John Pollock	46308687
John Creedon	4635 2969
John James	0417 617 572
John Krause	4696 8758
John Parkin	4614 0205
Len Wilson	46305117
Lance Garcia	0449 575 615
Lorraine Forman	0419741916
Keith and Rhonda Hampson	4630 5848
Margaret Simmons	0414 254 315
Nev Hunt	4615 2345
Patricia McNaughton	0408140070
Ray Moor	4635 4558
Reg Moor	4635 4850
Robert Ward	0428 614 264
Rick Harper	07 4696 6176
Ron Kuhn	4635 8969
Stan Edwards	0407 979 252
Steve Rasmussen	4615 5080

Tom Morgan	46155023
Tony Duff	0411 095 086
Vicki Sunderland	46305710
Wallina Todd	4626 8147
Peter Salomon	4698 7489
Maria Quinlan	4696 8591
Colin McAuliffe	0412 779 289
Stewart Dorman	0419766872
Ronna Sheppard	46915168
Michael Williams	0400980531
Wayne Hintz	0419655938
Upul and Sue Wasala	0412762273
Mark Schulz	0429 539 207
Susan Mouflih	4630 5679
Rob McMaste	46327395
Dick Smith	0417722313
John James	0417 617 572
Roy Munks	0415 334 940
Paul Mann	0412 795 356
Lance Garcia	04 4957 5615
Peter and Sandra Simpson	0401 930 259
Sarah Gilbert	0432 146 166
Ursula O'Brien	0407 862 605
Andrew Clarke	0412 993 902
Russel Draper	46365765

For New Members

The Southern Beekeepers Association is a non-profit amateur beekeeping club where our members share a common interest in bees. We endeavour to help people starting out in bees and we share information from experienced hobbyist and professionals beekeepers. Members partake in outings such as trips to other clubs field days, demonstration nights in someone's shed, trips to apiaries for hands on experience. There is a huge amount of interest in backyard beekeeping, because people all around the world are becoming aware of the scarcity of bees for pollination and our reliance on them for our survival.

Beekeepers suffer heavy losses and many inexperienced hobbyists give up in frustration so we as a club are attempting to share information and practises so you can continue to persevere.

All new registered beekeepers receive a Biosecurity Manual from the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation or it can be downloaded for free from the honey bee section of the Plant Health Australia web site: www.phau.com.au.

You must have a Certificate of Registration as a Beekeeper to own a bee hive, this is arranged through Warwick DPI&F, Locked Bag 17, Warwick Q4370. It's all about controlling disease and pests in you hive. It is a good idea to carry the Biosecurity Manual with you to aid with disease identification.

The Club has demonstration enclosures at the Pioneer Museum, Highfields and also the Jondaryan Woolshed, where we have old equipment on display and conduct live bee demonstrations, as well as selling honey on event days.

Club Contacts

1. Librarian Glen Bartkowski phone 4635 6007. We have books and dvd available
2. Hive custodian Ron Kuhn. The club has several hives which we use for demonstrations and sell the honey they produce
3. Honey Extractor custodian John Pollock 4630 8687. The club loans it out to members who don't have their own extractor.
4. Honeycourt Committee, Tom (0412 783 453) and Reg Moor (4635 4850) are involved if you are thinking of entering the competition at the Honey Court, competitors get free admission to the Show. Entries are required to be presented in a standard 500g bottle with a white lid.
5. Buying of queen bees, contact Reg. We buy a couple of hundred queens every year for members to purchase. The first batch will arrive in the first week of October and weekly thereafter. Please advise Reg if you require queen bees.

List of equipment and prices

We will no longer be stocking any more equipment except honey buckets, foundation and apithor. Denise will give us an update on prices etc.

Reference Material Members please check out the information attached to the following links:

www.beeaware.org.au

www.croplife.org.au/beeconnected

www.planthealthaustraila.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/Biosecurity-Manual-for-the-Honey-Bee-Industry.pdf

These are also on the QBA website: www.qbabees.org.au