



Official Newsletter of the Ipswich & West Moreton Beekeepers Association Inc

President's Report

The warm weather continues and members are reporting that their bees are still very active, with a swarm reported by one member. It appears our bees will have very little rest this year as we head to the winter solstice.

After the shortest day of the year (June 21st), honeybees become more active as the days lengthen so it will be interesting to see how the 2016 season plays out.

The Ipswich Show has been and gone and as usual our stall was well supported by the public with a good deal of interest shown by adults and children alike. My thanks to everyone who came to help out. Although our volunteer numbers were very low and our takings were less than we would have liked, the show was again a success for the club.

I would like to hear from members about how to increase participation rates in our activities, so please approach me or a member of the committee if you have any suggestions. We have a field day planned for July and we would like to know who is attending for the purposes of catering, so please advise a member of the committee if you are intending to come.

Noela Geeves, our secretary will be away from the 30th May for 2 weeks, please do not contact Noela during that time. Phil Geeves will also be away from 19th May until 20th June. Please feel free to contact me or one of the other committee members during this time.

Cheers for now Benita

I&WMBA Committee 2015

Patron	Norm Hinton	
President	Benita Ironside	07 3201 0397
Vice President	George Pallot	07 3202 8332
Secretary	Noela Geeves	07 3281 4165
Treasurer	Mark Meerwald	0410 658 603
Committee	Phil Geeves	07 3282 3989
Committee	Beryl Salmond	07 3281 7613
Committee	Grahame Yates	07 3288 8238
Committee	Kellie Round	0407 114 513

Dates to Remember



- Club meeting 7th June
- Committee meeting 13th June
- Practical Day at Pine Mountain 10th July
- Gold Coast Club Field Day 25th September.

Newsletter Contents

President's Report	1
Show Entries	3
Show Dates for 2016	3
Ipswich Show	3
Practical Day	3
Beaudesert Show	3
Annual General Meeting	3
Nucleus (Nuc) hives	4
Flora	4
Show Results	4
Membership Fees	4
Regular Items	5
Club Notices	6
Bees Pics	6
Articles	7



Club Meetings

The meetings of the Ipswich and West Moreton Beekeepers Association are held on the first Tuesday of each month (**except January**) at the W.G. Hayden Humanities Centre, Cnr. South and Nicholas Streets, Ipswich commencing at 7.30pm. **All welcome.**

Club Registration

Before Club meetings all members are required to pay a \$2.00 registration fee.

Club events are on the website calendar at <http://www.honey.org.au>

Early-Bird Registrations are now open for the Queensland Beekeepers' Association AGM and Annual Conference
Mercure Townsville
13th and 14th July 2016

Featuring a wonderful lineup of speakers including David Westervelt from Florida, USA giving the *Tony Knight Address* on American Foulbrood, and also Controlling Small Hive Beetle

Just \$160.00 for 2 days

See: <http://qbabees.org.au/events/coming-events/>
 or contact Secretary, Elise Whittaker on qbainc@bigpond.com or on (07) 3466 3542



Membership Fees

Membership Fees for the 2016 - 17 year are due now. Please see Treasurer Mark Meerwald at the meeting to pay your annual fees. Membership is \$25.00 for single membership and \$30.00 for a family membership.



Show Entries

As Phil Geeves is away at present Ken Freiberg has offered to help members to get entries to local agriculture shows during June. Please contact Ken directly if you would like his help. Tel: 3288 9873

Show Dates for 2016

The show schedule is now on our website notice board and in the website calendar.

Go to; <http://www.honey.org.au/index.php/upcoming-events>

Entry forms and schedules are available from each shows website.		
Toogoolawah	3rd to 4th June	www.toogoolawahshowsociety.org.au
Lowood	10th to 11th June	www.lowoodshowsociety.com.au
Kalbar	17th to 18th June	www.kalbarshow.net.au
Rosewood	24th to 26th June	www.rosewoodshow.com
Redcliffe	24th to 26th June	www.redcliffeshow.org.au
Ekka	5th to 14th August	www.ekka.com.au
Beaudesert	2nd to 3rd September	www.beaudesertshow.org.au

Ipswich Show

Thanks to all that helped with the Ipswich Show from the setting up on the Thursday night, to the volunteers over the 3 days manning the club's stall and the packing up on the Monday. Unfortunately sales were down on last year even though the Show Society has said that there were record crowds through the gates. Our pavilion was not as busy as last year and money was not spent.

Practical Day

Sunday 10th July has been chosen for our next Practical Day at the Pine Mountain Hall. This will be a hands on day, making up frames and boxes so everyone is ready for spring. The club will buy the kits and explain what needs to be done. The made up items will be available for purchase and new members will be given priority. The aim is to help the newer members of the club get established and ensure they are ready for spring. There will be a small charge by Grahame Yates and Phillip Geeves as they will dip all the boxes on behalf of members.



Please Note: Members must register for this day at the June Meeting. Please see President Benita or Assistant Secretary Mike. Kits have to be ordered following the June Meeting so they will be ready for the Practical Day. If you don't register, a kit will not be available for you.

Beaudesert Show

The Beaudesert Show is our next club show event. All members are asked to keep either Friday or Saturday 2nd and 3rd September free to help man the Club's stand. If you have never been to the Beaudesert Show, you should make it a priority, as it is one of the best shows of the year. You don't have to stay all day but if you can spare a couple of hours to give other members a break, it would be appreciated.

Annual General Meeting

The Club's Annual General Meeting is on Tuesday 2nd August. A nomination form is included with this Newsletter. Nominate who you would like to see on the Committee for 2016 - 2017. The forms must be back to the Secretary by 19th July.



Nucleus (Nuc) hives

As the club has limited capacity to create Nucs and demand outstrips supply, we offer them preferentially 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.

Note: If you order a nucleus hive, please ensure you are prepared for its arrival. Shortly after you may need a full size box that has been dipped and painted as well as frames with foundation to make up the appropriate number of frames to fill the hive. *This is the minimum you would need*, please talk to us if you have any doubts about what else you require.

Kellie Round [email: malkelliem8@bigpond.com](mailto:malkelliem8@bigpond.com) Tel: 0407 114 513

Flora

In June we should be seeing Broad Leaved Ironbark, Mountain Coolibah, Dogwood, Paper Barked Tea Tree, White Box, Yapunyah, Blue Gum, Spotted Gum and Swamp Messmate.

Show Results

Marburg	
Ken Freiberg	8 Firsts, 5 Seconds, Champion & Reserve Champion Honey
Albert Payne	7 Firsts & 5 Seconds
Peter Waldron	1 First & 1 Second
Phil & Noela Geeves	1 First & 3 Seconds
Ipswich	
Ken Freiberg:	11 Firsts, 5 Seconds & 2 Thirds Champion Honey & Most successful exhibitor in honey section
Albert Payne	2 Firsts, 7 Seconds & 1 Third
Peter Waldron	3 Firsts, 3 Seconds & 1 Third Champion Wax & Most successful exhibitor in wax
Phil & Noela Geeves	2 Firsts, 3 Seconds & 3 Thirds

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Regular Items

Library Notice

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.

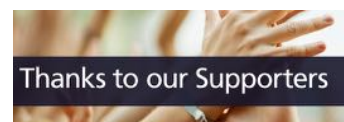


Club shirts, badges and caps

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 photocopying our newsletter.



Wiring Board

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 for hire

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 (members only)

Club Hand Extractor

The club has purchased a (3 basket) hand extractor to hire out to the members who only have a small number of frames to extract. To hire the extractor 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.

June meeting

Our Guest Speaker for the June meeting is Len Arkadieff and Len will be speaking about his commercial beekeeping operation. The main raffle prize will be a 5 frame nuk box kit.

How I started in Bees.

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

- June - Matthew Cooper
- July - Robert and Elizabeth Finney
- August - Jill Nelson

Committee Meeting

The next scheduled committee meeting will be held on the 13th June

Supper Roster

- June - Jan & Stacy Krzewina and Peter Meehan
- July - Guy & Elaine Mowat and Sarah Mowat
- August - Terry McAllister, Joanne McDonald and Peter McDougall

Room Set up

- June - Conal Berry
- July - Chris Billing
- August - Philip Bond



Club Notices

Honey Buckets, Bottles and Jars



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 \$6.00 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.

Apithor beetle traps

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.

Please note: The club does not stock or supply items other than the items above.

Beeswax wanted

Rod Palmer is interested in buying beeswax, any quantity, small or large. See Rod or Karen at the Club meeting or phone Rod to discuss. Business hours ph. 3495 7095 or 0417 796 257 or email rod@honeybee.com.au

Also, Quality Beekeeping Supplies are in need of wax and are keen to purchase any stock you may have. Contact Quality Beekeeping Supplies on 3376 5404.



Bee Goods For Sale

David Avery has some second hand boxes and frames as well as some new boxes for sale. He also has a 2 frame hand extractor and some strainers as well. If any member is interested please call David on 38144961 or mobile 0414402612. David lives at Redbank Plains.

Bees Pics

At our last meeting Peter Warhurst gave us a very informative talk about overwintering bees. A few members asked about bees and how they keep warm over winter. In Queensland we don't really have a winter! Check out the hives below, - at least they won't have hive beetle.



Articles

Manuka Buzz



Beekeepers abuzz with excitement over research into Manuka honey possibilities.

A detailed study has found at least 80 varieties of bush and trees around Australia that assist in making the Manuka honey sought-after for its medicinal qualities.

New Zealand is the main supplier of Manuka honey, which fetches about \$100 per kilogram. Beekeepers producing everyday honey for the breakfast table get between \$5.50 and \$7.00/kg. However, as demand for Manuka honey escalates, the Kiwis are unlikely to be able to provide

sufficient supplies. James Kershaw is a New South Wales-based beekeeper, and is the industry representative on the research committee that is part of the study funded by the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation and honey producers.

"We've come across it [Manuka] in years before and it would get stuck in the combs," Mr Kershaw said. "We would curse it because you cannot get it out of the comb. It was a pain in the butt. "Now it could be a possibility that some extra income will come out of it."

The optimism is based on a study that has looked at honey from *Leptospermum* trees, better known as tea trees and jelly bush. Microbiologist Dr Shona Blair, from the University of Technology Sydney, is involved in the research and is on the executive of the New South Wales Apiarist Association. Just how Manuka honey helps fight disease is still being determined.

Source ABC Rural... Thanks to Dimitri for this one...

[Full article at <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-05-17/manuka-honey-qualities-bees/7420894>](http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-05-17/manuka-honey-qualities-bees/7420894)

Bee's Knees

Former miner finds making honey in the outback is bee's knees

It has taken half a decade for 66-year-old hobby apiarist Peter Rawlins to resurrect his childhood dream of making honey.

But he is not doing it alone — in the backyard of his weatherboard house on the outskirts of Broken Hill, up to 80,000 bees now reside in a metropolis of hives that gently hum in the shade of the trees.

"I come from Cadell on the Murray in South Australia and there used to be a lot of beekeepers around in those days, back in the '60s," Mr Rawlins said. "An old bloke was getting on and he needed a hand. "I was interested, so I used to go over and a couple of years later I had a couple of hives of my own." Life got in the road of Mr Rawlins' enthusiasm for bees; he married, raised a family and moved north, where he slaved in the honeycomb of the Broken Hill mines. Just under five years ago, he got the bee bug back, and it did not take long for him to become known by locals as "the bee guy". "As soon as I started, I had a couple of hives, people heard I had bees, so I had the school ringing me saying 'come and get this swarm for us before they get the kids'," Mr Rawlins said.



Now, each day he dresses in his "bee suit" — white pants and boots, long gloves and a white hoodie with a barrier of mesh draped across his face.

He fires up the smoke machine which he said calmed the angry bees.

"The theory is that they think there's a bushfire coming, so they go inside the hive and gorge themselves with honey instead of wanting to sting you," Mr Rawlins explained.

"The smoker is started up with a piece of paper and some straw, but generally I like to use hessian or eucalyptus leaves [because] it's a nice smell and it makes a nice cool smoke."

He said cool smoke or not, it was the weather that could really make the bees cranky.

"If the weather's wrong or you've got the wrong perfume on, that annoys them a bit," he said.

"Cold weather, windy weather — the day that's ideal for them is hot, though it's not ideal for us in these suits. "The face is the worst place to be stung," Mr Rawlins said, wincing at a memory.

"The wife had a photo of me at one stage and I looked like the elephant man. I got two stings on the face, but that's my own fault for not having the veil on."

All this peril and pain has a payoff however — honey, and lots of it. "It depends on how strong the hives are; a lot of these were only swarms [and] there could be old queens," he said. "But generally speaking, each frame could hold two to three kilos. You could get 30 kilos out of this one box of frames. "I'm only a backyarder. If I get 60 kilos, I'll probably sell 20 kilos and give away 40."

Broken Hill's distinctive honey flavour

Mr Rawlins said Broken Hill honey had its own distinct flavour, one that was comparatively impossible to describe. "Every area has its own food source for bees, like on the river, you'd have all eucalyptus honey," he said. "Up on some of the fruit blocks, you'd have orange blossom honey.

"But Broken Hill's generally a blended honey, as everyone's backyard has got something different and the bees go up to five to seven kilometres to get a feed."

"You go through the stage of women and drinking, cars and all that type of thing, but later on in life, you start thinking 'there's more to life than that'," he said.



"The bees are very entertaining; I can sit and watch them for hours."

Source ABC Rural... Thanks to Dimitri for this one as well...

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.



IPSWICH AND WEST MORETON BEEKEEPERS
ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

Nomination for Management Committee 2016 -2017

Nominations for the positions on the Management Committee
Must reach The Secretary at 40 Whitehill Road Eastern Heights 4305

By
Tuesday 19th July 2016

There are nine members on the management committee

- President
- Vice President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Assistant Secretary
- 4 Committee Members

All parties to the nomination form must be financial members

I _____
Name of Proposer

Being a financial member of the Ipswich and West Moreton Beekeepers Association Inc.

Hereby nominate _____
Name of Nominee

For the position of _____

On the management of the above Association

Signed _____ Proposer

Signed _____ Seconder

Signed _____ Nominee