

BEE NEWS

July 2023

Issue 140

Monthly newsletter of the Sunshine Coast Beekeepers Inc.

www.sunshinecoastbeekeepersinc.org.au



NEXT MEETING - AGM

Saturday, 29 July at the Club House,
43 Farrell Street Yandina.

Morning tea and catch up starts
9.30am, BYO plate of food to share.
Meeting to start at 10.00am.

The business of the meeting will be
to receive annual reports from the
President and the Treasurer and to
conduct the election of committee
members.

All committee positions, President,
Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer,
and Committee are open. Frank
Vos is stepping down as Committee
Member, so we have a vacancy on
the Committee. All other current
committee members have indicated
their intention to continue in their
present positions.

A nomination form for election to
the committee has been forwarded
to all members. Please complete the
form and send it to the Secretary -
secretarysbees@gmail.com - no later
than 7 days before the date of the
meeting.

Only current financial members are
eligible to nominate others and/
or be nominated for election to the
committee



President's Report

Another huge month for our club. The Greatest Honey in the World competition was run and won by a very new beekeeper - Kylie Aalbers! Congratulations Kylie! Kylie had only spun out her frames that morning so it couldn't have been much fresher.

We also had the Sunshine Coast Agricultural Show. Our club was involved through the honey competition, with our stall, through 6 education talks, and in judging the Sunshine Coast Showgirl. Overall our club did exceptionally well at the show with many members taking out the prizes. Special mention to Graham Gibb who won 9 awards and to David Lee for winning Reserve Champion. Our involvement at the show meant a mammoth effort from so many of our members and we have enormous gratitude

for everyone who was able to be involved. From all of those who entered the competition, prepared the honeys for sale, set-up the stall, did a shift at the stall or display, assisted with presentations, and generally supported us, we thank you all. Our club is what it is because of the collective support from our members. Thank you for your time, effort, and energy.

Memberships are due now. You can pay at the club, or online. If you transfer your membership electronically, PLEASE include your name as the reference so we can match your payment up with you.

Next month we will hold our AGM. We would love to hear from you if you would like to be involved in the organisation, management, and running of the club. If you would like to help out further, or join the committee, please come talk to us. Many hands make light work.

Additionally, we are always looking for more presenters at our monthly meetings. I know I have personally learnt a great deal from you and from our presenters. If you would like to speak at a meeting, we would love to hear from you as well.

Thank you all for your support, as always, I am thankful for the team we have created. And if this is my last report as President (in case anyone else would like to nominate at the AGM), a huge thank you from me personally for all of the support you have shown me.

Katie Livock, President

May 27th Meeting - Annual Best Honey in the World Competition

The honour of having the best honey is a new beekeeper Kylie Albers

The year we managed a record number of entries with a total of 43. Well done to all the enthusiastic bee people who tasted all entries. Water to clear the palate was an essential.



Handing over the trophy, last year's winner Tony Minto to Kylie Albers

Workshops for New Beekeepers

Our next Beekeeper's Courses will be held on the following dates:

- 9 September.
- 11 November.

All participants must agree to the Club's covid rules.

Booking is essential.

Book online at:
www.sunshinecoastbeekeepersinc.org.au/workshops.



* Freepik

The Club Online

To save our members time searching online, the Club's website has links to the best beekeeping information and websites we can find.

www.sunshinecoastbeekeepersinc.org.au

Also, check out our Facebook page for more Club news.

www.facebook.com/pg/sunshinecoastbeekeepersaustralia/posts/?ref=page_internal



Best honey in the world - table with the last tasters

Fri 16th to Sun 18th June - Nambour Show

Katie thanked all the members who gave their time preparing for the Show, set up, manning the stall for three days, demonstrations and packing up. A big thank you to Elise, Rachael, Molly, Kylie, Gerry, Jo-Anne, Rod, Katie, Evan, Arlene, Kate, Ron, Lynne, Graham, Tom, Grant, Alby, David, Sue, Kathy and Linda.

Our main purpose for the show is for promotion and education of Beekeeping on the Sunshine Coast. Our education talks and demonstrations were very successful with a lot of interest shown.

Photos of stall and talks

There were 105 entries in the Honey Competition in the Show and our club was well represented. Congratulations to everyone who received prizes for their honey. A big thank you to David, Sue, Heather and Kathy who manned the Display and helped with the judging.

We also sold quite a lot of Honey and Creamed Honey.

Well done everyone.



Bee education at the Nambour Show



Wax art winner Lynne Hulm



Hive display and honey sales at the Nambour Show



Pale amber honey winner Ron Hulm

Winter

Unless absolutely necessary resist the temptation to enter your hives as the bees need to retain heat within the hive during the winter months. Instead check your hives from the outside - check the number of bees exiting and entering the hive, replace diatomaceous earth in the baseboard tray every 3 to 4 weeks, keep the area under the hive clear of debris. If when you inspected your hive in Autumn, you noticed honey store was low now may be the time to feed your bees.

Please refer to the article found on the website, [Resources for Members - Useful Articles for Members](#)

Swarms

We are seriously in swarm season with our swarm team kept busy collecting miscreant bees and their queens.

Southern: Ian Meyers, 0412 694 058.

North Coast and Sippy Downs: Grant Eisenmenger, 0401 720 004.

Buderim: Tom Cowburn, 0418 143 206.

North and central areas: Alby Taylor, 0418 882 282.

Maleny and surrounds: John Baker, 0418 791 149.

Saturday 24th June Meeting – Speaker – Grant Eisenmenger

Grant attended the QBA Conference in Toowoomba last week and he relayed the topics of discussion at the Conference. The main topic being the Varroa Mite.

National Varroa Mite Eradication Program Update As of start of June

167 Infected Premises / Over 40,000 hives under surveillance

217 commercial beekeepers and over 3,000 recreational beekeepers affected.

25,000 hives have been euthanized both commercial and recreational with potentially 2500 still to be euthanized.

Bait Stations - 600 to increase to 800 bait stations in the effected red zones attracting wild bees with sugar syrup.

60 compliance investigations and fines issued.

Still up to 180 personnel on the ground each day checking hives

Prof Cameron Jack –Varroa mite Biology

USA have had mite for 35 years. “Do all you can to get rid of the mite”

** Acceptable Mite load - 3 mites / 100 bees

Mite Check - Alcohol wash 87 mites / 100 bees - hive is basically dead. De-cap drone (preferably) or worker brood to see exact mite count.

Checks should be completed every 2 months – to check treatment effectiveness and that reduction in mites is being achieved.

National Park Updates

Beekeeping has been extended into national Parks for another 20 years – 2044

AHBIC is trying to lobby parliament to get beekeeping forever

Honey Quality, authentication and bioactivity

Adulterated honey is a growing concern in Australia's beekeeping industry.

Currently to test "honey" entering Australia cost \$1000 per test. With improved testing and better practices cost could reduce to around \$500 / test.

We can only reject honey coming into Australia under biosecurity.

In summary Grant said that it is important to do Varroa checks and send your results to 123Bees for recording purposes. There is a Red Zone around Newcastle and Coffs Harbour which hasn't extended yet. We are hoping it won't. It is important for all Beekeepers to register their hives, especially now and stay vigilant.

Dates to Remember

30 May - Renewal of Membership and payment of membership fee due

- Please ensure that you include your **FULL NAME** when transferring the money via internet banking
- BSB: 633000 Account No: 163379555

29 July AGM – The Club's AGM is due be held at the end of July

- All the committee positions are declared open but most of the committee is happy to continue in their roles.
- Frank Vos who is on the committee and looks after our Website and Facebook is planning to retire at this date.
- We would like all of you to consider this vacant position and consider taking on this very important role.

Your Club and Covid Safety

We recommend physical distancing, wearing masks and hand hygiene to keep us all safe.

Masks are not all equal – N95 and P2 are the gold standard, then surgical masks and lastly cloth masks are better than nothing.

Honey Extraction Dates

NOTE – all members wanting to use the Club facility for extraction of honey must first book with Lynne Hulm the Secretary to make sure we are not overbooked

- 15th July
- 19th August

Please ensure that you assist with the cleaning up following extraction of honey.

Borrowing the Clubs spinners to extract honey at home:

- The spinners have been bought for the use of all members.
- Contact the Secretary Lynne Hulm to place your name on the list to borrow a spinner.
- The Spinner must be returned to the club by 9:00am the following Saturday cleaned and ready for the next member to borrow.

Saturday Rosters 2023

We would like to thank all the members who volunteered to work at the Club for the month of June.

JULY

15/07/23	Open	Chris Poindestre Bernie Thompson	Lynne Hulm
22/07/23	Honey Harvest	Tony Minto Adam Donnelly	Tom Cowburn
29/07/23	AGM	Felice & Keith Eastwood	

AUGUST

05/08/23	Open	Chris Strewe Rod Hutchinson	Frank Vos
12/08/23	Open	Bob & Sylvia Barns	John Baker
19/08/23	Honey Harvest	Terry Ind Kym Maver	David Lee
26/08/23	General Meeting	Yana Brown Rowena Coghill	

SEPTEMBER

02/09/23	Open	Ken Harrison Bryan O'Neill	Tom Cowburn
09/09/23	Course	Ron Button Ken Evans Catering - Mary Spencer	Katie Livock
16/09/23	Open	Damien Casserly Peter Keim	Paul Bonner
23/09/23	Honey Harvest	Michael Thompsen Scott Murchie	Grant Eisenmenger
30/09/23	General Meeting	Andrew Gaffney Dianna Bannick	

If the dates don't suit or you are unable to attend please email Lynne Hulm - secretarysbees@gmail.com

What the Club plans for its members

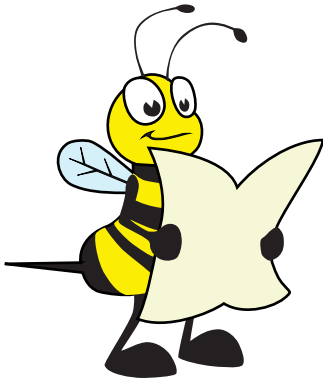
The Honey Extraction has been successful but please follow the directions outlined above. Ensure that the date suits you because if you cancel at the last moment another club member will miss out.

If interested in borrowing the new 2 frame spinner ensure that you sign it in and out and that it is returned clean and within the week.

Sale, Purchase Swap

A separate sheet is attached to the newsletter each month headed "Sale Purchase Swap". This will be for the information of members only and will not be downloaded onto the website with the newsletter.

If you would like to list anything could you please send an email with photograph if required to the Newsletter Editor at the following email address: lineb@internode.on.net by the Friday the week prior to the meeting each month. This will coincide with our committee meeting when any additional inserts to the Newsletter are discussed. This provides me with a deadline.



BEES IN THE NEWS

Forget pavlova, Aussies win 'extraordinary' trans-Tasman manuka honey legal battle: 9 News National Mark Saunokonoko, 23 May 2023

Australian beekeepers have won another important legal battle in their years-long fight with rival New Zealand apiarists for the right to use the name "manuka honey".

Yesterday the Intellectual Property Office of New Zealand ruled a crucial copyright decision in favour of the Australian Manuka Honey

Association (AMHA), securing the rights of producers to keep marketing their honey as prized manuka.

Federal Government Announcement : Biosecurity Protection Levy: Australian Honeybee Industry News, 23 May 2023

Federal Labour Government set to impose 10% increase to honey levy in 2024 In a surprise announcement, the Federal Labour government has announced BIOSECURITY will be boosted by \$1.5 million...

Aussie apiarists to wax lyrical at global gathering of young beekeepers: ABC Radio Hobart, Lucie Cutting 12 June 2023

Tasmanian teens Reuben, Lillith and Audrey will soon embark on journey to Slovenia to represent Australia at an international meeting of young beekeeping enthusiasts.

The International Meeting of Young Beekeepers is the largest annual gathering of its kind worldwide.

As the only Australian representatives attending, the Tassie trio will test their knowledge and skills alongside about 120 teens aged 12 to 18 from 40 countries.

Which venomous animal sends Australians to the hospital the most? The answer may surprise you: Australian Geographic, 3 March 2023

The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) report found that 3,500 Australians were hospitalised due to contact with a venomous animal or plant in 2017-18, with 26 per cent of those hospitalisations due to bee stings. Bees and wasps were responsible for 12 of the 19 deaths related to venomous bites and stings in 2017-18."

2022 - 2023 Executive and Committee

President	Katie Livock	presidentscbees@gmail.com	0414 843 342
Vice President	Grant Eisenmenger	vicepresidentscbees@gmail.com	0401 720 004
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Committee	David Lee	leesbees@lisco.com.au	0414 757 220

Life members:

Merv Wruck, Chris Johnson, Bill Spencer

* Images and artworks are designed by Freepik www.freepik.com

Disclaimer

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