

BEE NEWS

April 2023

Issue 138

**Monthly newsletter of the Sunshine Coast
BeeKeepers Inc.**

www.sunshinecoastbeekeepersinc.org.au



Photo by Boba Jaglicic @ Unsplash, bees entering a hive



NEXT MEETING

**Saturday, 29 April 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.**

**Demonstration on making foundation
- Graham Gibb and Tony Minto**

**Speaker - Gillian Meyers - Annual
Best Honey in the World Competition**

**Collect containers after the meeting
and learn the rules of engagement**

President's Report

Things are certainly heating up - not the temperature obviously, but heating up in our beekeeping world! At our March monthly meeting, we were lucky to have been addressed by Dr Marek Zdaniewicz from the University of Agricultural Krakow, Poland. Marek has been doing some fascinating work with bee bread and we felt very fortunate to be involved with his international research.

Fortunately the varroa situation is still contained to NSW, though we are all encouraged to monitor our hives and do regular checks. Recently Channel 7 News reached out to us and Club Secretary Lynne Hulm was our local TV celebrity for the night by answering all the worries and questions people had. Thanks Lynne for representing us all.

At our April meeting we will hear from Gillian Meyers who will outline the rules and procedure for the 'Greatest Honey in the World' Competition which is held in May at our monthly meeting. Obviously we have the Sunshine Coast Agricultural Show in June as well. I am sure you are all prepping your honey for both of these competitions. Don't worry, I won't enter this year! Haha.

Finally, Graham Gibb and Tony Minto (current 'Greatest Honey in the World' title holder) will be giving a demonstration on foundation wax making at the April meeting. I will also start to call for volunteers for the show. I can't think of a reason NOT to attend!

See you Saturday! Have a bee-utiful week everyone!

Katie Livock, President

Dates to Remember

15 May - Honey Extraction Date

- Please ensure that you contact Lynne Hulm before coming to the Club.

28 May Club Meeting - Annual Best Honey in the World

- Collect your containers after the meeting for your honey.
- Gillian Meyers will be back for the meeting on 29th April to provide everyone with final rules for the competition.

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

- A reminder will be sent out by the secretary prior to the date
- Please ensure that you include your name when transferring the money via internet banking
- BSB: 633000 Account No: 163379555

Fri 16 to Sun 18 June - Nambour Show

- Honey / Mead Competition details on the web site provide information on how to prepare your entry.
- Volunteers needed to set up and pull down and assist with the stall during the Show.
- Special Note - the Club will provide a bottle free of cost for honey per member in order to encourage entry into the show competition. The Club will also collect entries on the Saturday prior to the Show.

17 June - Club will be closed due to Nambour Show

Workshops for New Beekeepers

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

13 May - Course cancelled

8 July, 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

20 June - Honey Extraction Date

- Please ensure that you contact Lynne Hulm before coming to the Club.

24 June Club Meeting

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.

Club Working Bee

We would like to thank all the members who volunteered to work at the Club for the months of March and April.

MAY

06/05/23	Open	Tracey Tucker Joanne Brayshaw	Frank Vos
13/05/23	COURSE	Kevin Wills Murray Evans Catering - Mary Spencer	Katie Livock
20/05/23	Harvest	Kay Thompson Jim McGown	Lynne Hulm
27/05/23	G. Meeting	Lynne Cafferky Peter Petsch	

JUNE

03/06/23	Open	Alby Taylor Wayne Graham	David Lee
10/06/23	Open	Errol Corsan Ron Hulm	John Baker
17/06/23	CLOSED - SHOW DAY		
24/06/23	G. Meeting	Leila Glover Dean Adams	

Autumn - Preparing Hives for Winter

Now is the time we all need to be thinking of preparing our hives for winter even with our mild climate. Please refer to the article found on the website, [Resources for Members - Useful Articles for Members](#)

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.

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.

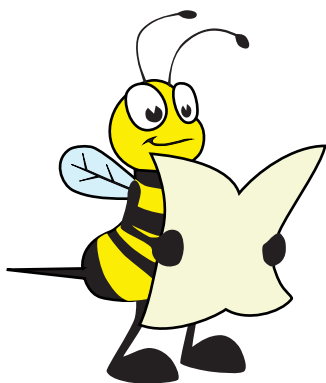
What the Club plans for its members

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



BEES IN THE NEWS

Scientists discover fossils of oldest known potential pollinators: *The Guardian*, Ian Sample, 1 March 2023

Nearly 200m years before the mosquito in Jurassic Park became trapped in amber, hundreds of ancient insects were encased in sediment along the bank of the Sylva river that flows through the Urals.

Now, scientists inspecting the flattened creatures have found a handful that appear to mark a moment in history: they are the oldest known insects to be covered in pollen, and perhaps some of the world's first plant

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.

pollinators.

At 280m years old, the specimens predate what were previously the earliest known pollen-covered insects by about 120m years.

Cyclone damage shows New Zealand's beekeepers are unprepared for climate change: *The Guardian*, Charlotte Graham-McLayin, 22 April 2023

Two months after a cyclone swept away thousands of beehives in the fertile fruit bowl of New Zealand's North Island and left thousands more unreachable, beekeepers are facing a painful and costly recovery that has prompted questions of how they will adapt to the intensifying climate crisis.

As the cyclone cleanup began, beekeepers said the disaster had underscored the need for more climate planning.

AHBIC Industry Update 24 - 302 days of response, 20 April 2023

Varroa Response Update

The total confirmed infected premises is now 152.

Alcohol Washing

Alcohol washing is a quick and effective method for detecting the presence and monitoring the level of Varroa mites within a honey bee colony.

The requirement has recently been reduced and depends on the number of hives at each apiary site:

- Less than 26 hives at a site – alcohol wash all hives at that site.
- More than 26 hives at a site – alcohol wash 26 of your hives at each site.

Wild European Honey Bee Management

The euthanasia of wild European honey bees in RED zones is a key component of eradicating Varroa mite. There are approximately 500 deployed wild European honey bee feeder stations.

Compliance Continues

NSW DPI continue to engage the help of NSW Police to assist with any non-compliant activities, this includes on the spot fines of up to \$2,000 for those transporting bees without appropriate documentation on their person. As movements of hives pose a risk to the success of eradication, declarations and permits allow for critical traceability.

What can't bees do? Unique study of urban beehives reveals the secrets of several cities around the world: The Conversation, 30 March 2023

Bees provide myriad benefits to humanity, including pollination services, honey production, food security and crop pollination, artistic inspiration and even career opportunities.

But what if bees could also provide insights into human and city health? A new study published today in Environmental Microbiome shows how honeybee hives reveal information about human health, pathogens, plant life and the environment of different cities.

Federal Department stopped training sniffer dogs to detect

bees, missing the chance to prevent varroa mite's arrival: ABC, Kath Sullivan, 22 March 2023

For several years, the government had stopped training sniffer dogs to detect Queen bees that might carry varroa mite

We were unaware of this happening as sniffer dogs are our first line of defence.

Authorities are yet to determine how the varroa mite entered Australia, but it is certainly possible that the mite could have hitchhiked on a queen bee.

2022 - 2023 Executive and Committee

President	Katie Livock	presidentscbees@gmail.com	0414 843 342
Vice President	Grant Eisenmenger	vicepresidentscbees@gmail.com	0401 720 004
Secretary	Lynne Hulm	secretaryscbees@gmail.com	0421 720 628
Treasurer	Paul Bonner	treasurerscbees@gmail.com	0403 432 952
Newsletter Editor	Linda Blackwell	lineb@internode.on.net	0409 848 466
Facebook/website	Frank Vos	frankvos@tpg.com.au	0412 066 546
Committee	John Baker	mail@johnbaker.com.au	0418 791 149
Committee	Graham Gibb	graham@signedbyme.com.au	0414 288 814
Committee	Tom Cowburn	tjcowburn@bigpond.com	0418 143 206
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

The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the Sunshine Coast Beekeepers Inc. The Sunshine Coast Beekeepers Inc accepts no liability for the consequences of any actions taken on the basis of the information provided in this newsletter.