

Townsville and District Beekeepers Association (Inc.)

www.beesnorth.com.au

PO Box 1115, Aitkenvale QLD 4814



Newsletter No 9, October 2021

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- New Members, Club officials' contacts
- Club Shop – New price list

Next Meeting and AGM:

Sunday, 17 October 10:00 am

Hermit Park State School

Entrance off McKimmin Rd, Hyde Park

Bring a chair and something tasty. Tea, coffee, milk available

We will be using current COVID safe procedures, as appropriate

2021/22 Memberships now due

Pay by Bank deposit and include your surname in the payment details to:

Townsville and District Beekeepers Association BSB: 633000 Account: 141466078

Club Member Profile: Nick Smith

Who's next on the Club Member Profile?

Words and photos from Nick Smith

Just so you're up to speed, TDBAI President Mick Olsen and I were chatting after I received comments on my native bee Facebook group that some members were not happy with the lack of diversity in native Bees within the club. Some members have been recently asking in the group if I could start a separate club. This is why I thought it might be a good opportunity to write about myself in the newsletter and get out to the members that the club does indeed promote native bee keeping.

I look forward to continuing to bring some diversity to the club and help our members and community with native bees.



Name - Nick Smith - NQ Native Bees

HIN - S1882

Suburb - Bohle Plains

Native or/and European bees - I keep 8 species of native bees currently. I'm looking to add a hive of *Apis mellifera* to learn from, and harvest honey.

Tetragonula hockingsi

Tetragonula carbonaria

Tetragonula mellipes 1

Tetragonula mellipes 2

Tetragonula clypearis

Tetragonula sapiens

Austroplebeia cassiae

Austroplebeia australis



No of hives - 80 plus - My hives are located throughout the Townsville region with friends, including on orchards and in numerous childcare and school campuses as part of my education program.

Type of hives - I keep many species of Native Bees in differing hive designs. These can range from the Original Australian Trigona Hive (OATH) through to my preference of tower boxes and observation boxes. I have numerous colonies in existing logs rescued from cleared land also along with my quirky little colony of *Tetragonula clypearis* living happily in a ceramic teapot.

Year commenced beekeeping - 2017

Who is/was your mentor - I have many mentors and great friends around the country in which I share and take knowledge from around native bees. When it comes to European bees, I am only just learning now and look forward to keeping my own hive in the near future. Frana & Jon McKinstry, along with John Carr have always helped and assisted with my many queries around Apis.

Who is involved in your household - My kids love helping with honey harvest and transferring colonies from logs into boxes.

Is anyone allergic/sensitive to stings - At the moment I'm not sure as I do not keep any European honey bees at the moment. Time will tell...

What is your biggest success / failure / mistake / biggest lesson - One thing I'm proud of is sharing my knowledge

and passion of our native bees with club members, community and our next generation. I also have learnt so much from undertaking numerous trials amongst my species of native bees with some great success and failures. I have tried and tested many hive designs, duplication methods with some surprising successful results. I have found hive designs can impact how a colony can survive and thrive based on slight differences. I don't see any unsuccessful trials or methods as failures but learnings of what not to do. One of the biggest lessons I have taken away from my years of keeping Native bees is to respect the true value of their honey and stores and the role they play in our environment.

What would you do differently if you had to start beekeeping again after a disaster like fire / AFB / Varroa / cyclone - I'd hope that myself or any member does not go through a disaster and lose colonies as a result. As a custodian of my bees, I have a duty of care to ensure all my colonies are respected and are safe from harm but if I had to start again, I would like to have all colonies in appropriately designed boxes and try standardise boxes and duplication methods in the interest of the colony and ease of managing large quantities of hives.



Do you sell / barter / give away honey - At times I do sell some honey as it becomes available. As Native bees do not make much honey annually, it's not something I keep them for.

Do you make any other products from your hives - I do sell and donate native bees wax (Propolis) to schools and Indigenous organisations for traditional tool making and didgeridoos.

Do you volunteer for the Club at Open days, markets, school

events, public displays - I enjoy being an active member of the club and try to attend and volunteer as I can. I usually head up my own stall and or a part of the Native bee side of our events. I look forward to helping club members & the community learn more about our precious native bees and also myself learning more from members about keeping and managing European bees.

Any stories you would like to tell - I have many stories I could tell but I'll keep it short. For those who do not know much about our native bees, here's a quick overview! Australia is home to over 1700 species of native bees. In our tropics we are very fortunate to have an abundance of these.



Australia's smallest native bee is the Cape York's Quasihesma bee. It is less than 2mm long.

Australia's largest native bee is the Great Carpenter Bee. We have an abundance of these beautiful bees in our yards. You can't miss them at a size of up to 24mm long with deep black and yellow markings.

Australia also has 11 species of eusocial native bees (genera *Tetragonula* and *Austroplebeia*) which do not sting! I currently keep 8 species of our stingless social bees. They are addictive and an absolute pleasure to work with and watch come and go laden with pollen and stores. I look forward to meeting our members and sharing my passion of native bees with the club and our community in the future.

Cheers
Nick



Ed's Comment: Thanks Nick for being this month's feature member. Stingless native bees are gradually earning a place in many backyards and there is still much mystery as to how these tiny creatures get about their pollinating, hive building and reproducing. Nick has run several native workshops for beginners through to experienced beekeepers, and has offered these courses at considerable discount (free sometimes) to Club Members. For Members who have been wondering where to get some experienced advice, source hive material, plans for hive boxes, demonstrations or managed hives for pollination – Nick is the “go to” person in our Club.

Club Library on display

Our Club Librarian, Beryl Smart showing off her wares – all for you to borrow, but please return those old borrowings so that other Clubbies can access them.

The club has a great library and is always expanding our selection of books. From books for the complete novice to the citizen scientists among us! Books cover native bees, European honeybees and other members of the bigger bee family. There are also magazines such as the 'Beekeeper' which can all be borrowed (and returned).



Free webinars to view

These webinars are presented free of charge by the British Bee Vet Association, to benefit global bee awareness to beekeepers and veterinarians
<https://britishbeevets.com/bbva-webinars/>
Click on the above link for access.

European Foul Brood by Dr Chris Palgrave
Biosecurity and Apiculture by Dr Colas Vidal Naquet
The Genetics of the Irish Honey bee by **Dr Jack Hassett**



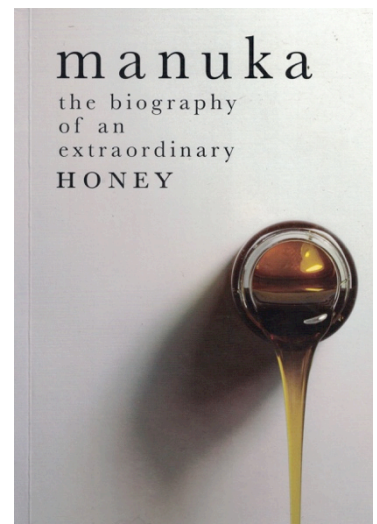
Library Book Review

By Lindsay Trott

Manuka, the biography of an extraordinary honey. 256 pages
Cliff Van Eaton, 2014 Exisle Publishing

An insider's story about the history and discovery of NZ's famous honey that was once thrown away, given away, or fed to animals due to the low price received and the trouble of getting it out of the supers. This honey is like Australian "jellybush" honey and Scottish heather honey, in that it is thixotropic and forms a jelly like gob in the comb that is very difficult to spin out.

Written by a beekeeping specialist, author and adviser, Cliff Van Eaton has been a part of NZ beekeeping industry for over 30 years. His personal association with the leading discoverers, and his in-depth knowledge of honey, bees and botany is covered in this low scientific jargon story. He describes the technical terms and scientific issues clearly and briefly, and has a positive outlook on how we are entangled in a delicate, merry dance, - all dependant on each other – bees, varroa, and industrialised food production.



One surprising issue for me was the revelation about the mystery active ingredient (MGO) that gives manuka its high rating as a wonder health product, attracting ridiculous prices – is that it only appears on p. 199 and is done and dusted by p. 209!!! I would have thought that the discovery of this simple small chemical in manuka honey that has generated a \$140 million /year honey trade would have earned a bigger slice of the story.

Definitely worth a read to see how it takes keen observation, devotion to something you love, and persistence to crack some difficult problems.

Available for loan from the Club Library, check with Beryl Smart.

Bees on the internet

A roundup of interesting articles on the internet about bees.



1. 63 endangered penguins killed by bees in South Africa

<https://www.gizmodo.com.au/2021/09/new-details-emerge-about-bee-swarm-attack-that-left-63-penguins-dead/>

A shocking scene took place late last week in South Africa, as swarming honey bees laid waste to dozens of endangered African penguins.



Close-up taken during the post-mortem showing bee stingers around the eyes. (Photo: SANCCOB)

The incident occurred at the Boulders African penguin colony in Simon's Town near Cape Town, South Africa. At some point between September 16 and 17, a swarm of bees killed 63 endangered African penguins (*Spheniscus demersus*). Rangers with Table Mountain National Park reported the grim news on the SANCCOB (Southern African Foundation for the Conservation of Coastal Birds) Facebook page.

Post-mortems of the birds revealed multiple bee stings, including stings around the eyes. Many dead bees were also recovered from the scene.



Dead African penguins being prepared for post-mortems. (Image: SANCCOB)

"A bee nest must have been disturbed, causing the bees to swarm this way," Ronnis Daniels, resource development manager at SANCCOB, explained in an email. "It's an unfortunate case of the penguins being in the wrong place at that time."

Roberts said the African penguin population is depleted and doing badly, with an estimated 10,300 breeding pairs left in South Africa. The loss of any individual bird is "very worrying for the species," he said.

SANCCOB's research manager Katta Ludynia said South Africa has lost over 40,000 breeding pairs in the past 20 years, the main threats being lack of food, competition with fisheries, increasing shipping traffic, oil spills, pollution, climate change, diseases,

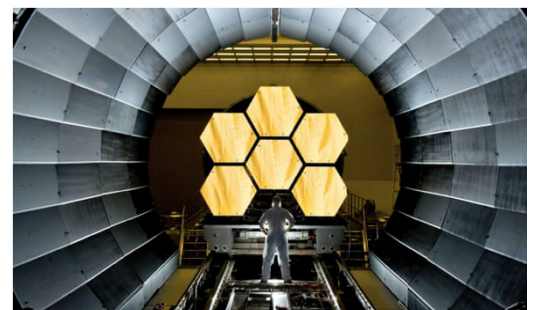
2. New space telescope looks like a big beehive

https://www.theguardian.com/science/2021/sep/17/spacewatch-james-webb-telescope-to-launch-in-december?utm_term=.92af50f63e00a77be172bead97d7c331&utm_campaign=GuardianTodayAUS&utm_source=esp&utm_medium=Email&CMP=GTAU_email

The European Space Agency (Esa), Nasa and Arianespace have announced that the [James Webb space telescope](#)'s target launch date is 18 December. It will be carried into space from Europe's spaceport in Kourou, French Guiana

It is 100 times more sensitive than the [Hubble space telescope](#) and works at longer wavelengths. Webb observes the infrared universe, whereas Hubble works at visible wavelengths. This will make the Webb's science complementary to that of its predecessor.

Ed: Looks like a big beehive to me.



3. **Hive monitoring tool**

Probably a bit too advanced for us humble backyard beekeepers, but if you plan to expand and have every hive with its data at your fingertips, this is where to go. As the ad says, "Monitor hundreds of hives in seconds", but I'm not sure my brain can handle that. <https://www.hivegenie.com/why-hivegenie>

4. **Neem Oil Is Organic, But Is It Safe?**

<https://www.beeeculture.com/neem-oil-harms-bees/>

Neem oil is a vegetable oil from the seeds and fruit of the neem tree *Azadirachta indica*, native to India, Southeast Asia, and some parts of Africa. It has long been used in traditional Ayurvedic medicine as a skin and hair treatment but is also increasingly used today as an insecticide. You can find dozens of websites touting its benefits, and indeed, it is an effective and organic insecticide. Neem oil can kill insects directly, but its main ingredient interferes with insects' normal life cycle because it is similar to insect hormones, so it acts as a deterrent to growth and reproduction. Neem oil is also a fungicide and can improve the quality of soil for agricultural uses. The article recommends using neem oil only on indoor plants. For outdoor use, there are alternatives.

4. **Angry bees in the Western Australia's south-west make stronger, more valuable venom**

abc.net.au/news/angry-bee-venom-more-valuable-and-allergenic/100399578

Renowned for its honey and home to many of Western Australia's commercial beekeepers, the state's marri forest region extends from north of Perth to the south coast near Denmark. (Supplied: Dr Daniela Scaccabarozzi)

The venom of angry bees fed on a native West Australian forest diet has been found to be stronger – and with more desirable medicinal properties – than more docile bees.

Key points:

- Research has shown angrier bees in Western Australia's native marri forests produce more medicinally valuable and allergenic venom
- Bee venom is used in medicine and cosmetics and can be worth up to \$US300 per gram
- Despite its value, harvesting venom is difficult and few beekeepers sell it commercially



By weight, venom is the most valuable product bees produce — worth more than honey, royal jelly, wax, pollen or propolis — at up to \$US300 (\$A419) per gram.

Venom contains proteins used to treat degenerative and infectious diseases such as Parkinson's disease and cancers as well as in cosmetic products.

Daniela Scaccabarozzi led the Curtin University research team who collected venom from hives in south-west Western Australia's marri forests.

"We classify [the bees' anger] according to their response to the stimulating devices that collect the venom," she said.

To harvest venom, bees sting glass plates electrified with a few millivolts of power.

The venom dries on the plate and can be scraped off without harming the bees. One gram of venom in 20 hives was obtained during a one hour of harvest.

5. **Still no outcome in court case to register Manuka honey trade mark**

<https://www.claytonutz.com/knowledge/2021/september/this-trade-mark-stoush-is-as-sweet-as-honey>

We haven't heard if a decision has been made on whether NZ can prevent Australian beekeepers from using the term "Australian Manuka Honey". There are some restrictions on using the name within NZ, and the UK (is it still the UK?) has apparently agreed, but no other countries have agreed – yet.

It seems the Kiwis have had a win – but only for honey within NZ – but they have to go to court in every other country to apply for the trademark restriction.

https://www.abc.net.au/news/rural/2021-10-06/manuka-honey-trade-mark-aus-nz/100258102?fbclid=IwAR3eiwAPYFSxKZtBy3mlr9znT2ZHziMqxft7JTEFp7JeOskFTKXG5_vC4Q

6. **Too many bees?**

https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2021/jul/24/this-only-saves-honeybees-the-trouble-with-britains-beekeeping-boom-aoe?utm_term=0c6bd8cc3db23491907d138b03ddfef6&utm_campaign=GreenLight&utm_source=esp&utm_medium=Email&CMP=greenlight_email

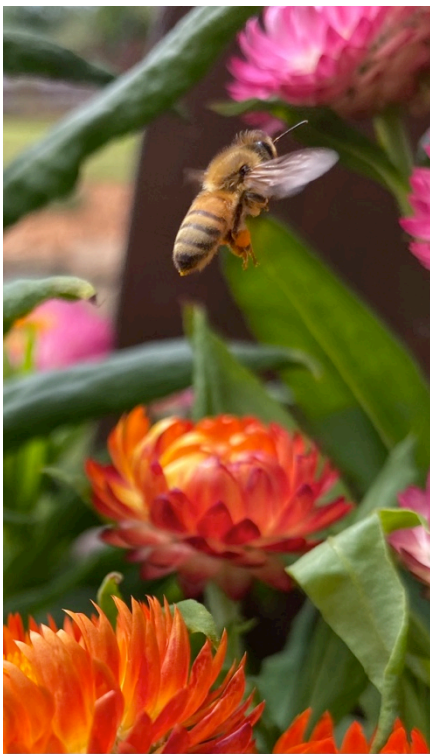
Concerns are growing in the UK that the popularity of beekeeping is starting to have adverse effects on native bees. The article reports that there are now around 7,500 hives in greater London, that Honey Bees are not in decline, but that wild native bees are under extreme pressure from the modern world.

"Honeybees are very efficient, almost omnivorous consumers of nectar and pollen; they are voracious," says Gibson. "There is no off button. They will carry on consuming what's out there as long as it's out there. Just to stay alive each beehive will consume 250 kilos of nectar and 50 kilos of pollen. If you have a hive of 70,000 bees, that's 70,000 times four or five cycles over a single season. You are talking about almost half a million bees that have got to be fed."

Ed's Comment: My information says that a hive in Australia needs 80 kg of nectar and 8 kg of pollen, maybe the UK bees are too hungry?, that's still a lot of pollen and nectar for just one hive.



Photo: Alex Turner



Sophie Berkelmans snaps a bee in flight

A chip of the old block? Seems like Ray Berkelmans' daughter, Sophie, is taking an interest in bees, just like her old man. Nice freeze frame capture of a bee, doing it's thing.

Remember the Shop etiquette

We are still in Covid-19 restrictions, please consider the welfare of all

Email orders will be given priority and serviced – but walk in orders may not be completed. Pre-order by email before midnight on the Thursday before shop opening to shop@beesnorth.com.au; please do not send your order to info@beesnorth.com.au

Golden Rules for the Club Shop:

Please follow this guide:

1. Order by Thursday midnight **before** the opening day, by email: shop@beesnorth.com.au
2. Arrive at the Shop **after** 9:00 am, pay for your order and don't hang around inside the Shop to chat – too many people inside.
3. Non-emailed or late orders may not get any attention if the Shop is too busy.

TDBAI Club outreach activities – Open Day, Native Bee Workshop, and more

Club Members have been particularly active in showcasing bees to the public and school in our region recently. Mick Olsen, and Jon and Frana McKinstry have again been active with displays, honey, discussions and more. And what about Nick Smith's native bee workshop on the Saturday 18 Sep, just before our Open Day on Sunday 19 Sep. The Ed took a few photos before the public arrived, so not too many in the photos, and I got too busy during the day to take any with lots of people.

There were demonstrations of native bees and Europeans, hive displays, honey and bee products for sale, equipment on display, and a raffle for one of Nick's native bee hives in a log, organized by a real life bee lady. Thanks to Mick Olsen for organising the Sappers group to cook and serve up a free sausage, egg, steak and onion sizzle – well done blokes.

One of my picks of the displays was to Ian Goulevitch, ably assisted by Luke Venables. They drove down from Ingham and showed off the very sophisticated harvesting setup for Flow Hives that Ian has developed. Little, tractor lifting gear, harvesting setup and clear Flow Hive honey on sale.

My other pick was Nick Smith's impressive variety of native bee hive boxed, and the range of native species he had in the hives for inspection. I was very impressed and surprised by the number of different species in the hives.



Our open air lecture theatre at Open Day on the left.

Sandylee selling some produce on the right.



Ian and Luke manning the stall, and Ian's zippy honey truck with gantry on the right





Ian shows how to harvest a full Flow Hive in the field without getting robbed, or swarmed (left).



Above right, Nick chatting to some native bee keepers in front of his several and varied hives and species that he is able to maintain.



Native bee Newsletter – join the group and check out some great info and photos

The CROSS-POLLINATOR - Newsletter of the Australian Native Bee Association

Original articles, new information and news from the world of native bees. The Association has branches in Sydney, Brisbane, Wide Bay and Gladstone, but no Townsville branch?? Are there enough interested native beekeepers to get one “flying”?

Check out these sites: <https://australiannativebee.org.au/>

<https://www.facebook.com/Australian.Native.Bee.Association/> <https://www.instagram.com/australiannativebeeassociation/>

Committee Meeting: Date: 14th Aug 2021

Location: West End Hotel

Welcome: MO welcomed all members and the meeting commenced at 1210hrs

Present: Mick Olsen, Frana McKinstry, Darren Hawkins, Michelle Hasted, Sandylee Hutchison, Alan Ziegenfusz, Paul Payne, Dr John Carr.

Apologies: Shane Grist, Sonya Verburgt, Ronelle Ward, Tom & Joan Rudell, Lisa Fenoglio, Beryl Smart, Lindsay Trott, Iain Gordon

Minutes of previous meeting:

Minutes tabled and accepted by: John Carr - Seconded by: Paul Payne

Business arising from previous meeting:

Misplaced PO Box keys will discuss and prepare letter to Australia post for replacement keys. A cost to the club will be incurred to replace keys.

Secretary Report/Correspondence: Nothing to report

Treasurer's report: Healthy account balance of \$46758.74 on hand.

General Business:

- John Carr thanked MO for his very professional interview with both WIN and Seven News.
- Discussed the purchase of the Deeragun Scout Hall up the road from Michael Hooper Park at a cost of \$15000. The committee has first option on this building, if all up to council standard, and we will look at funding through Government grants.
- FM suggested the association look at joining the Amateur Beekeeping Association of NSW, as this organisation would offer insurance to TDBAI and to individual members. FM to compare the cost with our current insurers.
- MO has asked the committee for up to a \$1000 to spend on steel to get the shed at Michael Hooper Park back to lock up stage. This amount was approved unanimously.
- MO has reminded the committee that only committee members are to make decisions on financial matters and ordinary members are to raise any issue with a committee member/s.

AGM to be held 17 Oct @ Hermit Park State School.

Meeting closed @ 1330hrs.

Committee Meeting Minutes – West End Hotel 11/9/2021

Opened: 12:00 **Chair:** Mick Olsen (MO) **Note taker:** Lindsay Trott

Present: Nick Smith, Frana and Jon McKinstry, Sandylee Hutchinson, Lisa Fenoglio, John Carr,

Apologies: Tom and Joan Ruddell, Iain Gordon, Michelle Hasted, Darren Hawkins, Paul Payne, Alan Ziegenfusz

MO: Welcomed members, described previous minutes (still in draft form). These will be included in next Newsletter.

- Surveyors report for Hooper Park is coming soon
 - Scout Hall will almost certainly be bid for as a temporary club meeting place
 - MO is getting steel for fence to surround hives
 - Nick Smith and MO applied for NFP grants from various bodies, but status unclear
 - St B's school visit still need volunteers on 16 September 2021
 - Aus Post PO Box key will be replaced, MO will organize
 - St B's donated \$16 from can return scheme as a donation
 - Native bee workshop will be \$10 for members, to be held on 18 Sep at 9:30, food provided by Club and BBQ cooked by Sappers group
 - Open Day flyers will be organized by MO, need to arrange a drop off
 - Open Day will have Flow Hive demo, Nick will have natives, Frana to arrange demos and raffles, face painting, shop items on display, honey for sale
 - John Carr will be overseas from 17 Sep for several months
 - Club has a QR code for Open day and native bee workshop
 - John Carr will run a bee anatomy on Wednesday 22 Sep, 6 -9 pm, with food available
 - Jon Carr recommended the Club buy some dissecting microscopes – some discussion regarding usefulness, costs, models etc followed.
- Motion to obtain costs and models was approved 1^o Sandylee, 2^o Lisa

Treasurer: \$52K in bank, still have problems with Membership function on website

- NFP could be obtained and grants obtained for the educational and outreach function of the Club if we set up a separate group

AGM will identify need for new President, Treasurer, Secretary

Jon McKinstry: proposed long standing member Dave Turnbull be nominated for Life Membership at AGM. Nomination information was submitted.

John Carr: relayed the strong appreciation and thanks from JCU Vet Science Dept and students to Sandylee and Frana and Jon for the prac sessions they have held. Students have rated the bee classes as the best in their course.

Rapid PCR test for AFB under development at JCU involving John and Iain Gordon

Wildlife should not be fed honey due to risk of AFB, Club could repeat the info in the Newsletter

Discussion:

Could Club have their own wax foundation set up? Some members have tried various forms – Mick Laffin, Wayne Taylor, Graeme Kent, Sandylee. What is their opinion?

Xmas Party for 5 December at Bohle Barn, by your own food and Club money on the bar

Close: 12:55

General Meeting Minutes - Michael Hooper Park, Deeragun 19/9/2021

Chair: President Mick Olsen (MO)

Note taker: Lindsay Trott (LT)

Meeting opened: 10:05 am

Visitors: Visitors were acknowledged and gave a summary of their interests for natives or European bees. Attendance book signed.

Previous Minutes: Previous minutes were noted and accepted – see previous Newsletter, moved Luke Venables and 2nd by Lisa Fenoglio. No business arising from the previous minutes.

MO:

- spoke about native bee course to be run by Nick Smith on 18 Sep, he will split 3 hives, food will be available, booked out
- Scout Hall looks very promising as a meeting hall, can be purchased for \$15K, Club will proceed
- Open Day will have Sappers Group cooking food purchased by Club, free feed for public and volunteers
- 4TTT Radio station will advertise our events, Club will register with station for \$90/yr for access to free air time
- PO Box key has been replaced

Treasurer's Report: In great shape, books not available now but have been sent to accountants for annual audit

- AGM on Oct 17 will have audited financial books presented

Library: Beryl away, John Carr is adding books to our library, Nick Smith advising on natives topics

Secretary: Nothing in the mail box

Newsletter: Editor requested articles and local news.

Club Shop: Usually on 1st Saturday of the month from 9-10 am at 3/38 Rendle St, Aitkenvale. E-mail your requests before Friday.

Sales are going gangbusters. Please use the web site for purchases – need to persevere with website.

General Business:

- Mick Laffin has brought in a wax roller and foundation making equipment for the club to trial, look on Youtube for instructions
- Nick Smith and natives, discussion about workshop day
- Leaky toilet at Hooper Park needs TCC to fix (MO)
- AGM 17 Oct with location TBA. Need President, Treasurer, and Secretary
- Xmas lunch will be 5 Dec at Bohle Barn, \$ on bar, buy own food
- Raffle of native log hive, bee book etc
- Next year will have increased focus on natives, raise profile
- John Carr reported that the Club was thanked for Bee Anatomy course for JCU Vet Science
- 2 microscopes are on order for dissections
- John Carr will arrange to have the anatomy course recorded and posted to the website
- Ads for the Open Day were discussed

Announcements:

Positions available with the Club at the next AGM in September:

- Waldon Edwards – Secretary – announced his resignation effective Mon 21/6/2021.

- Mick Olsen – President – Will not be seeking election for another term.
- Frana McKinstry – Treasurer – Would very much appreciate a reduction in her workload.

Meeting Closed: 10:20

Next Meeting: Sunday 17 October at 10:00 am, followed by AGM

New office holders needed for our AGM on 17 October at 10 am at Michael Hooper Park, Deeragun
Help keep the Club running and serving the Members. Our current President and Treasurer need a break, and our Secretary has left town.

Welcome to our New Members

Existing Club Members are encouraged to assist/mentor our Newbees. They have joined the club to learn about bees, so even if you only have limited experience, give them a hand if you can. Invite a Newbee to your hive opening and discuss what's inside the box, let newbies experience hive openings to become more confident, and you will learn more yourself by trying to explain what's going on in there.

Subscribe to the Bee Aware e-newsletter and stay up to date

The BeeAware newsletter is an e-newsletter for beekeepers and growers of pollinator-reliant crops, or anyone else simply interested in beekeeping or the pollination of crops. Each newsletter contains the latest in news, research and development, as well as upcoming events relating to honey bee biosecurity and the pollination of horticultural and agricultural crops. Townsville features in Issue 52 due to the latest AHB and Varroa incursion.

<https://beeaware.org.au/subscribe-to-newsletter/>

Annual Membership Fees are due in July/August each year - currently \$30/p.a.

Membership fees can be made electronically to:

Name:- Townsville and District Beekeepers Association BSB:- 633000

Account:- 141466078

Refer :- Please make sure you add your Surname so that your membership can be signed off.

Sell/Swap/Buy/Help needed

I will list items for 2 Newsletters only, unless you let me know otherwise. Please drop The Editor editor@beesnorth.com.au a note to indicate whether the items are required to be listed for a longer period. Do you need help from a Club member with your hive? Let the Editor know, and your request will posted here. Please include name, phone contact, and a brief description of the question/problem and how urgent.

Email contacts for the Office Holders 2020/21

You can use these email contacts for the Office Holders, and hopefully they will have figured out how to access them and will respond ASAP.
president@beesnorth.com.au, treasurer@beesnorth.com.au, shop@beesnorth.com.au,
And for all web and membership enquiries : info@beesnorth.com.au

TDBAI Office Holders for 2020/20221

President: Mick Olsen - president@beesnorth.com.au

Vice President: Iain Gordon

Secretary: Open

Treasurer: Frana McKinstry:

Treasurer's Assistant: Darren Hawkins

Treasurer's Assistant: Michelle Hasted

Membership: Frana McKinstry : info@beesnorth.com.au

Newsletter: Lindsay Trott

Assistant Editor: Dr John Carr

Librarian: Beryl Smart

Webmaster: Ray Berkelmans

Publicity Officer/ Equipment Steward: Sandylee Hutchison

Committee: Shane Grist Sonya Verburgt Alan Ziegenfusz Ronelle Ward Tom & Joan Rudell Lisa Fenoglio Paul Payne

****Next Meeting is also our***

AGM at Hermit Park State School at 10:00 am Sunday 17 October

Entrance off McKimmin Rd, Hyde Park

Opportunities Galore.

Nominations are open for

President

Secretary

Assistant Treasurer

And all Committee positions up for grabs **Step up, and help run your Club**

Nomination form is in this Newsletter

Swarm Contact List:

Please advise editor@beesnorth.com.au if you wish to be removed from this list. Contact me with your name, phone number and suburb if you want to be added to the list.

Kelso/Kirwan: Steve and Carla Kersnovske - 0417 344 419

Graham Dalby – 0420951929 Michael O'Connell- 0402088080

Douglas/ Gulliver: Sonya Verburgt - 04 0853 0991

Alice River/ Bluewater: Sharene Dougall – 0415426903 Ronelle Nord – 0417752622 Duane Saltmer - 0400 339 508 Amanda Woodcock – 0405784083

Black River through to Rollingstone: Alex Jenkins - 0459472166

Aitkenvale: Pat Dury - mob 0419252829

Magnetic Island: Tito Parigi - 0418 796 951

Charters Towers: Mervyn Yule - 0427 124 126

Swarm List Please contact Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23 for any swarm or strange bee activity in the Townsville region. For all swarm collections, please collect 300 bees or roughly 10% of brood comb and submit to Biosecurity Queensland for pest and disease monitoring.

Newsletter Editor needs your input – why not tell me your story? Club Member Profiles

From The Ed.

The Newsletter Editor receives some wonderful stories and photos from some of our Members. And it makes our Newsletter a personal and relevant method of communicating our bee adventures with to all our Members, many of whom cannot get to the meetings or events. Some of these stories are amusing – like The Blooper Series (The Ed seems to feature in a lot of these), Product Reviews, stories from the many events, markets and school visits, information from our more learned members, news about workshops and open days, and so on.

this section be about a different Club member each month, but it can only happen if at least 1 out of the 400+ members puts pen to paper, takes a snapshot and sends in the info to me at the Newsletter desk.

you don't have to think about what to say. You just have to write in and embellish a little, tell me funny stories, successes, failures, problems and what beekeeping means to you. Go for it!!

The TDBAI has over 400 members at last count.

Surely one or two are prepared to fill in a half page questionnaire and take a photo? If you cant write, and cant take a photo, then give me a call and I will come over for a cuppa and a chat and we will be able to extract a story with you for the rest of our Members enjoyment. Lets keep the Club Member Profile articles for the monthly Newsletter rolling.

Here's the questionnaire – fill it out and attach a photo and send to me [mailto::trottlindsay@gmail.com](mailto:trottlindsay@gmail.com)

CLUB MEMBER PROFILE QUESTIONNAIRE

Name HIN Suburb Native or/and European bees No of hives/area of hive locations?

Type of hives? Type of foundation? Beetle protection?

Year commenced beekeeping? Who was your mentor? Who is involved in your household? Is anyone allergic/sensitive to stings?

What has been your biggest success? / failure?/ mistake?/ biggest lesson?

What would you do differently if you had to start beekeeping again after a disaster like fire/AFB/Varroa/cyclone

Do you sell/barter/give away honey? How much honey does your average hive produce? Do you make any other products from your hives?

Do you volunteer for the Club at Open days, markets, school events, public displays? Would you like to participate?

Any stories you would like to tell?

Attach photo please?

That's it!!!! Just fill it out and send it to me, and you will be a rock star in the Monthly Newsletter.

Please provide more than just a one word answer!!

The Ed

Nomination Form
Townsville and District Beekeepers Association Inc
Annual General Meeting 2021
Office Bearers/ Management Committee

I,.....of.....

Being a member of the above named Association, hereby nominate

.....of.....

To be.....(position) for TDBAI during the year 2021/22

Nominated by:
(Signature)

Seconded by:
(Signature)

Dated

Cut along this dotted line and submit to AGM Chair

.....

Proxy Form
Townsville and District Beekeepers Association Inc
Annual General Meeting 2021

I,.....of.....

Being a member of the above named Association, hereby appoint

.....of.....

As my proxy to vote on my behalf at the Annual General Meeting of the above named Association to be held on Sunday 17 October 2021, and at any adjournment thereof.

Signed this.....day of.....2021

Signature.....

Club Shop Items - 2021 Price List

These prices are only available to current financial members

Starter Kit (Jkt,gloves,tool,smoker,brush,book)	160.00	Wax Embedding tool - roller	15.00
Jacket - Ventilated	90.00	Wax Embedding tool - electric	45.00
Full Suit - ventilated	115.00	Block beeswax, per Kg	25.00
Replacement veil	25.00	Eyelets pkt 50g	6.00
Cowboy hat with veil	12.00	Awl (for picking eyelets)	5.00
Veil	20.00	S/S Wire x 500gm	20.00
Childs full suit - ventilated	80.00	Crimping Tool	14.00
Childs full suit - cotton	60.00	Bucket Bracket	10.00
Vented Pants	60.00	Bucket Opener	10.00
Gloves - pair	25.00	Queen Catcher Clip	3.00
Veil - Native Bee	3.00	Queen Catcher / Marker tube	10.00
Super - 10 Frame, wood	30.00	Frame Gripper	10.00
Super - 8 frame, wood	28.00	Frame Hanger	20.00
Super - Ideal, wood	28.00	Bee Feeders	1.00
Super - WSP, wood	28.00	Spring clips, pair, with screws	5.00
Lid (10 Frame) unassembled	27.00	Spatula (blue)	10.00
Lid (8 or 10 Frame) pre-assembled	35.00	Gate valve - Nuplas	12.00
Base - Ply (8 or 10 frame)	22.00	Gate valve - Parker	30.00
Base - Mesh	35.00	Gate valve O rings - Parker	8.00
Mesh sheet (for base construction)	15.00	Uncapping knife	15.00
Lifting Cleats (Handles, pair)	5.00	Uncapping knife - electric	45.00
Hive Mat - 10 frame	9.00	Comb scratcher	10.00
Clearer Board - 10 Frame	26.00	Strainer	30.00
Nuplas Super (8 or 10 Fr)	40.00	Scales	12.00
Nuplas Super - Ideal	35.00	Extractor - 4 Frame S/S	530.00
Nuplas Lid (8 or 10 Fr)	38.00	Native bee boxes	100.00
Nuplas Base (8 or 10 Fr)	45.00	Bee Haven Native Beehive	420.00
Nuplas 10 Fr set: 1 x super, lid & base	120.00	Honey jars 250gm	0.70
Nuplas cleats (Handles, pair)	10.00	Honey jars 500gm square	0.80
Nuplas oil tray & frame	28.00	Honey Jars Squeeze 550g	0.80
Hive Doctor plastic base (8 or 10 frame)	55.00	Honey Jars 1 kg	1.00
Beetle Buster base (8 or 10 frame)	110.00	Honey Pails - 1 kg	1.20
4 Frame Nuc Box	65.00	Honey Pails - 1.5kg	1.30
5 Frame Nuc Box	70.00	Honey bottle 2.8kg (2 litre)	0.80
Corflute Nuc boxes	28.00	Glass Jars 500g	1.00
Hive tool (S/S)	15.00	Bucket - 20 Litre	12.00
Smoker	38.00	Apithor trap	8.00
Smoker - Beeco	110.00	Silver Bullet trap	8.00
Smoker Fuel (1kg)	5.00	Diatomaceous Earth	4.00
Bee Brush	10.00	Guardian Bee Hive entrance (red)	15.00
Emlok - hive clamp	14.00	ABC of Beekeeping in Tropics	25.00
Hive Handle (galvanised, pr)	12.00	Australian Beekeeping Manual	35.00
Queen Excluder - Wire (8 or 10 frame)	22.00	Australian Native Bee Book	25.00
Queen Excluder - Plastic, 10 frame	12.00	Inside the Hive	5.00
Queen Excluder scraper	10.00	Bees Knees	20.00
Frames - Full depth	2.00	Honey Labels (250/roll)	30.00
Frames - Full depth, prewired	4.00	Nutrition Panel labels (per roll)	30.00
Frame/Fdn, Beetek complete, waxed	7.00	Posca Queen marking pen	5.00
Frames - Ideal	1.50	Warning Sign	10.00
Frames - WSP	1.50	Bee Poster	20.00
Foundation - Plastic, full depth	2.10		
Foundation - Plastic, FD, pre-waxed	3.10	Club Polo Shirts S/S	40.00
Foundation - Plastic, WSP	2.00	Club Polo Shirts L/S	45.00
Foundation - Plastic, Ideal	2.00	Club hats with logo	15.00
Foundation - Wax, per sheet	2.40	T-Shirts "Beekeeping it Real"	20.00

TDBA Bee Starter Kit - \$160

The Perfect Gift for a budding Beekeeper

Available in Townsville from the Club Shop:

Club Members Price Only! - \$160

Hive tool, brush, vented jacket/veil, gloves, and smoker

Plus: The ABC of Beekeeping book

Contact: Club Shop Stewards: Frana M or Alan Z via email:

shop@beesnorth.com.au



Objectives of the Club

The objects of the TDBA association are listed for your info —

- 3.1 To increase the knowledge of bees and bee culture.
- 3.2 To increase the standard of beekeeping among beekeepers.
- 3.3 To assist in the study of subjects allied and relevant to apiarist activities.
- 3.4 To afford advice and assistance to beginning beekeepers, particularly in overcoming their early difficulties.
- 3.5 To arrange lectures, discussions, demonstrations and field days for the benefit of members.
- 3.6 To assist members in obtaining suitable apiculture materials, bees and equipment.
- 3.7 To promote, encourage and support appropriate experimental work connected with beekeeping.
- 3.8 To promote knowledge and understanding of natural honey resources that may assist in the protection of honey-producing flora.
- 3.9 To work with government, semi-government and non-government agencies for the benefit of members of the Association.
- 3.9 To collect, produce, publish and disseminate information on beekeeping to members and to the wider community.

