

Townsville and District Beekeepers Association (Inc.)

www.beesnorth.com.au

PO Box 1115, Aitkenvale QLD 4814



Newsletter No 10, November 2021

In this Issue

- David Turnbull - our new Life Member
- Native bee workshop success
- Library – lots of new listings
- Last meeting for 2021, Xmas Lunch at The Bohle
- New Committee Positions
- Club Meeting AGM Minutes at Hooper Park
- Bees on the Internet,
- Club activities, Events, school outreach
- New Members, New Club officials' contacts
- New Shop prices now listed on the website:

<http://www.beesnorth.com.au>

Next Meeting:

Sunday, 21 November 10:00 am

Michael Hooper Park,

Isaac St, Deeragun

Last Meeting for 2021

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

We will be using current COVID safe procedures, as appropriate

Xmas Lunch at The Bohle Sunday 5 Dec – did you book with Mick?

David Turnbull appointed as a Life Member of the TDBAI

Long time Club member David Turnbull has been recognized with a Life Membership for his support and assistance in promoting the good works of the TDBAI. David was previously an active member who served on several Executive Committees over the years, and was always able to offer wise counsel on bee matters and the functioning of the Club. David was a vigorous supporter, and assisted the Club in moving to be an Incorporated body. David is currently unwell and not able to pursue his bee interests or attend Club functions.

His nomination was put forward last month by Jon McKinstry, and supported wholeheartedly by the Executive Committee and approved at the General Meeting last month.

Congratulations David, and our best wishes for your health.

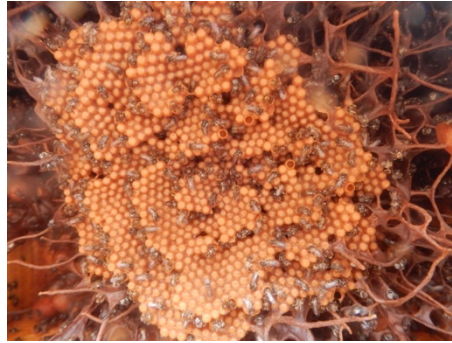
Native Bee Workshop at Michael Hooper Park, Saturday 30 Oct

Our very own new President and native bee fancier, Nick Smith, ran another sold out and really informative native bee workshop on 30 October. Nick had bees I had never heard of in hives of a variety of that he has developed to suit the individual needs of the different species. The formal lecture was relaxed and interesting, morning tea and a chance to inspect the display hives followed, then a free sausage sizzle and cold water provided, all cooked and provided by the Club, then some hive splits, a log split and some discussion about hive preference for different species. Nick fielded any question with his extensive experience and good nature – a great day was had, and some very eager native bee enthusiasts went home with a better understanding of our native bees. Thanks Nick and the TDBAI Club volunteers for a really worthwhile day - \$10 for Club Members, what a bargain.





T. hockingsii split and assisted education by placing brood already in the daughter hive by Nick, on the right.



T. carbonaria brood above and *A. australis* on the right



A. cassiae brood and queen in one of the display hives above

Below left, an experimental display cassette built by Jon McKinstry to show solitary bee egg laying and larval development.



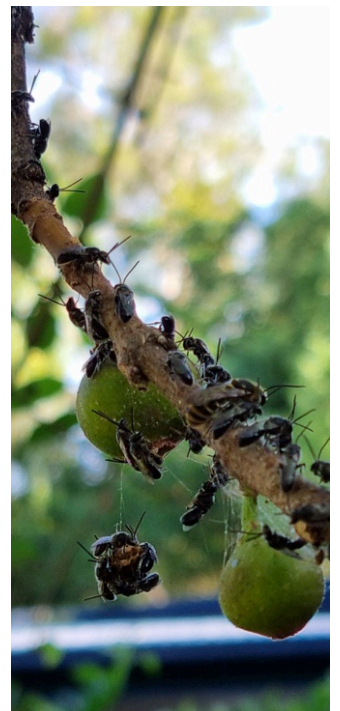
A. australis in a log split demonstration. Pollen stores, honey pots, brood - and the queen was spotted and collected after the brood was lifted.

Native bees on Magnetic Island

Photos from Sue English- possible ID from Nick Smith

They look like possibly Homalictus bees. There's many types and they are ground dwelling bees. Many females will cohabit a single burrow. These have a male look about them with antennae high and congregating like a possible mating swarm.

<https://www.aussiebee.com.au/homalictus.html>



Club Member Profile: No submissions this month

Who's next on the Club Member Profile?

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).



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

TITLE: Wasps - The Astonishing Diversity of a Misunderstood Insect

AUTHOR: Eric R. Eaton

INTRODUCTION: Those who have nobly suffered the stings and harrowing attacks of Yellowjackets or Hornets may have a low opinion of wasps, but it is the mission of this book to turn fear and loathing into fascination and admiration. It may come as a surprise to learn that the overwhelming majority of wasp species lead solitary lives rather than dwelling in paper palaces with queens and workers; or that not all wasps and sting. Even for those species that do, it is only females that possess a stinger and venom glands. The ultimate visual journey into the beautiful and complex world of wasps.

TITLE: Manuka - the biography of an extraordinary honey

AUTHOR: Cliff Van Eaton

INTRODUCTION: This book Chronicles the remarkable 'rags to riches' story of manuka honey, as seen through the eyes of a New Zealand beekeeping specialist who watched it unfold from the very beginning. It's a great tale of science in which an inquisitive university lecturer found something totally unexpected in a product everyone had written off. Check out the October Newsletter for a book review by the Editor.

TITLE: How Insects Work -an illustrated guide to the wonders of form and function from antenna to wings.

AUTHOR: Marianne Taylor

INTRODUCTION: How insects work goes beyond the typical field guide to show us not only what insects look like but why. Arguably the most successful land animals - still going strong after five mass extinctions - insects have evolved a spectacular array of real-life superpowers to help them thrive in virtually every environment.

TITLE: Practical Microscopy for Beekeepers

AUTHOR: Bob Maurer

INTRODUCTION: This book contains the basic information you need to explore the fascinating world of honeybee microscopy. It will help you choose the right microscopes, set them up correctly and use them to study the anatomy, pollen and some pests and diseases.

TITLE: The small hive beetle -Aethina tumida Murray.

AUTHOR: Wm. Michael Hood

INTRODUCTION: The purpose of this book is to familiarise the beekeeping public with the honey bee pest, the small hive beetle. The small hive beetle is native to Sub Saharan Africa where it is known as a minor honeybee pest. Since 1996 the small hive beetle has become an invasive pest as introductions have been recorded in five continents other than its native Africa including Asia, Australia, Europe, North America and South America.

TITLE: Insect Anatomy and Physiology

AUTHORS: Devinder Sharma, Hafeez Ahmad, Suheel Ahmad Ghanaian

INTRODUCTION: There are about 10 quintillion insects in the world divided into more than 1 million known species, and some scientists believe there may be more than 30 million species. As the largest living group on earth, insects can provide us with insight into adaptation evolution and survival.

TITLE: Beehive Alchemy - projects and recipes using honey, beeswax, propolis and pollen to make soap, candles, creams, salves and more.

AUTHOR: Petra Ahnert

INTRODUCTION: From crayons to cough drops, cookies to candles. Beehive Alchemy is a comprehensive introduction to incorporating the miracle of bees into everyday life.

Bees love some people more than others

Why is it that some people attract far more attention than others during hive inspections? I have seen the videos of the "Texas Bee Lady" doing swarm and hive removals in her skimpy black Lycra outfit without getting stung - <https://texasbeeworks.com>, and I cannot understand why the bees do not have a shot at her dark clothing, or her exposed flesh.

Maybe our official government bee inspector (pictured) was about to try the same game as the "Texas Bee Lady", and "[go regimental](#)" when doing an inspection, just like a good Scottish tartan kilt wearer – no jocks, no fear.

Alas, it was just another nasty hive on the sentinel hive rounds, and no he wasn't about to drop his strides and perform an inspection – "au naturale".

Rather, it was a couple of very curious lady bees - who just wanted to "get into



FAT BEES - SKINNY BEES -a manual on honey bee nutrition for beekeepers-

A report for the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation

By Doug Somerville Livestock Officer (Apiculture) NSW Department of Primary Industries, Goulburn

RIRDC Publication No 05/054 RIRDC Project No DAN-186A

Review by Jon McKinstry. Publication available from the Club Library

A summary of this enlightening research publication is provided below or you may want to click the link and download the full publication. Very interesting reading.....

Executive Summary:

Some facts about bee nutrition-

1. Nectar flows stimulate hygienic behaviour
2. Total protein in pollen is the most important factor = > 25% protein = excellent pollen < 20% protein = poor quality pollen
3. Fats in pollen act as strong attractants to foraging bees
4. Vitamins are unstable and deteriorate in stored pollen
5. Beekeepers should seriously consider providing sugar syrup to bees as a means of manipulating bee behaviour
6. If field pollen is scarce, the colony will cease rearing drone brood

Nectar:

- Nectar consists of sucrose, water, some enzymes and minerals.
- In ripening honey, moisture content is reduced to between 12-21%.
- The colony will obtain most of its water requirement through nectar.
- honeys with high glucose (dextrose) levels (eg Canola) will candy more rapidly than honey with high fructose (laevulose) levels (eg Yellow Box – E.melliodora).
- Dark honey generally has a richer mineral profile than light honey.

Pollen:

The principle compound of pollen is protein which is necessary for a honey bee colony's survival and success, although the ratio between the different amino acids is very important.

Protein:

- 20-25% crude protein (CP %) in pollen is considered the minimum level.
- With low amounts of pollen or pollen below 20% CP, the area of brood in the colony will be reduced.
- 2 Kg pollen @30% CP = 3 Kg pollen @20% CP. The demand for pollen within an Australian bee hive could be as much as 100 Kg per year.
- Protein is made up of amino acids. The 10 amino acids that are essential for honey bee nutrition are: Threonine, Valine, Methionine, Isoleucine, Leucine, Phenylalanine, Histidine, Lysine, Arginine and Tryptophan.
- The main limiting amino acid in pollen collected by bees is Isoleucine. Much eucalypt pollen is significantly lower in this amino acid than in introduced species.

Fat:

- Fat refers to lipid which is composed of fatty acids, sterols and phospholipids.
- Normally bees get sufficient fat from pollen.
- The most important fat for brood rearing is cholesterol.
- Fats in pollen act as strong attractants to foraging honey bees.
- Eucalypt pollen has a very low fat level (1 – 2 %) when compared to Brassicas (eg Canola, Wild Radish) that range from 6- 20 %.
- One research project reports that linoleic acid in pollen inhibits growth of bacteria that causes European Foul Brood (EFB) and American Foul Brood (AFB).
- A number of other fatty acids are also known to have anti-microbial properties.

Minerals:

- Little is known about the mineral requirements of honey bees.
- Excessive levels of minerals can limit brood rearing.

Vitamins:

Vitamin B complex is essential for most insects including honey bees. Pollen is an excellent source of these vitamins.

Bees on the internet

A roundup of interesting articles on the internet about bees.

1. Honey bees Have Increased 85% In The Last 60 Years – (Ed's comment: balanced reporting? or feeding your own bias)

By Hank Campbell | <https://www.beeculture.com/honey-bee-increase/>

"A new analysis finds that if there ever was a "Beepocalypse", it hasn't been during this century.

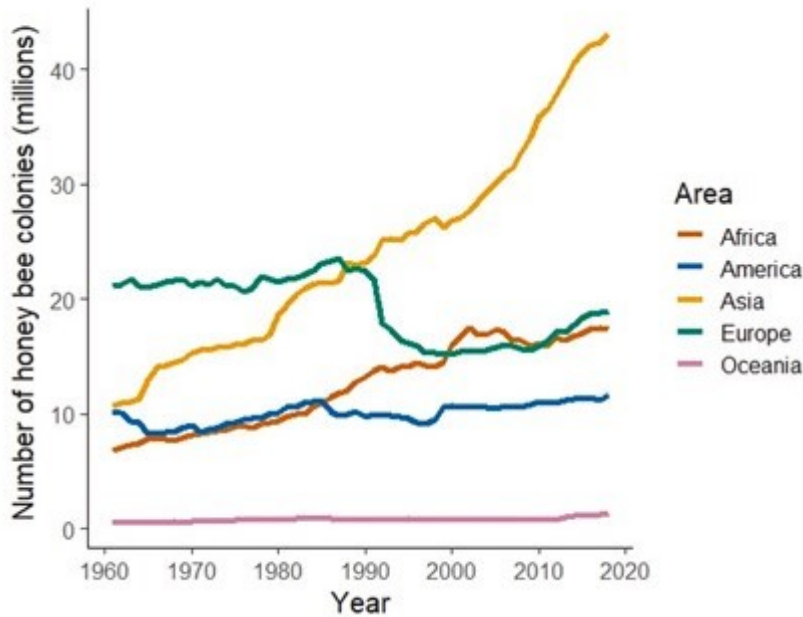
A new analysis using data since 1961 found that the number of managed honey bee colonies has risen by 85%. Managed colonies are the only way to create reasonable estimates, that is how surveys of losses are done annually, but in the past activists trying to create a new fundraising target leveraged blips in averages to claim that a Colony Collapse Disorder was being caused by...farmers.

You know that averages are created so that high and low outliers are not exaggerated in importance. Anyone scaremongering that a number on a survey is lower than the average of previous years is insulting the public, but that is what happened. Anti-science activists also ignored that bee colony collapses – inexplicable die-offs of bees in large quantities – have been recorded for as long as records have been kept. Over 1,100 years. Ask a bee expert what the top three perils bees face are and they won't say pesticides, they will answer 'varroa, varroa, and varroa.'

Nature is out to kill everything, including us with COVID-19 today and bees with parasites forever.



Number of *Apis mellifera* colonies



The big jump has been in Asia, which has lower environmental standards and more pesticide use than anywhere else in the world. Good luck protesting a communist dictatorship, activists.

How successful has nature been in killing bees? It's actually hard to say because no one can count them. Over 99% of bee species don't even have hives. We actually don't even know how many bee species there are. So we use a proxy and do surveys of beekeepers because they count how many colonies they have and you can infer how many bees are in each – on average. Human involvement in their bees business has been good for honeybees. The cow is not extinct only because it was domesticated, and honey, not to mention on-demand pollination for crops like almonds, is big business. That has meant long-term security for honeybees.

That is why claims about a beepocalypse brought about because farmers make food affordable, whether from Joni Mitchell decades ago or Jenny McCarthy recently, made little sense. Any science literate commercial beekeeper knows the problem is not agriculture. When your livelihood is bees, you want to keep them alive. No one would be happier than commercial beekeepers if activists were right and all it took was banning some chemical and bees would never die. Yet they will die without help. Science keeps bees alive. There is very little (legitimate) organic honey because the losses are too great due to natural deaths like parasites. If tools to fight nature weren't needed, the market would have spoken and beekeepers spending money on killing diseases in bees would stop spending money and everyone would just sell overpriced organic honey."

Ed's comment: Apologies for the longish rant following, but I am always disappointed by self interested and biased reporting regarding bees. I have included an abbreviated version of this article above, as some of the comments were just plain inflammatory – so I left them out. I included the article in the attempt to stimulate a balanced presentation of ideas about bees, however, I don't agree with the suggestion that everything is hunky dory in bee land for non European honey bees, and that farmers and their pesticides and monocultured crops are innocent bystanders. You can get accurate estimates of the numbers of non-social and native bees by doing long term consistent collection surveys. This work has been done in several countries, and the news folks, is pretty bad and frightening, especially if you are a native bee. There has been an alarming decline in native "bee populations worldwide. This is due among other things to monocultures and the use of crop pesticides in conventional agriculture. Half of the 570 or so species of wild bees in Germany are at risk of extinction. 75% of the wild bees in Germany nest in the ground, not in countable hives "

<https://www.deutschland.de/en/topic/environment/bees-at-risk-germanys-strategy-for-protecting-bees>

You can get a worldwide eco friendly movement, and people making love songs for the European honeybee. I don't denigrate that passion and the associated care for the environment upon which bees, and us, depend. I haven't seen anything – poems, songs, tributes etc - come up yet for Australia's Great Carpenter Bee, or a leaf cutter bee, or a fire tailed resin bee, or a neon cuckoo bee (check them out – fabulous looking bees <https://www.aussiebee.com.au/thyreus.html>). Native bees hardly rate a mention in most environmental protection orders. They don't produce honey, or earn the big \$\$\$ from almond, canola and soy and other pollination businesses. And yet some of them are vitally important pollinators – like buzz pollinators for tomatoes, or macadamia pollination, or small specialised pollinators for small flowered fruits. Remember that Australian plant pollination got along just fine for millions of years before European honey bees came on the scene. European honey bees on the other hand are nurtured, split, transported, protected, traded, manipulated and coaxed into massive production numbers. The article above did not mention the colossal and persistently large hive losses (20-40% per year sometimes) suffered during this period of commercially driven increase. Food for thought! What caused that??

I also find it ironic that a journalist in a national magazine representing an entire industry (worth US\$ 300 million just in honey production/year) would write such a one sided article promoting the success of the increasing European honey bee numbers, and use it to criticise and denigrate the groundswell of support for **ALL** bees, and the concerns raised about damaging effect that industrialised farming and widespread pesticide use is having on native bees worldwide. Perhaps I should cast my reading net further afield for more balanced reporting than "Bee Culture", the Magazine of American Beekeeping.

Happy to receive and publish civil, courteous, intelligent comments.

PS Just as an example of dramatic bee declines not mentioned in the article above – check out the data and causes on the 89% disappearance of the American bumblebee <https://www.wsj.com/articles/the-bumblebees-plight-why-they-are-disappearing-in-the-u-s-11634992056> Doesn't rate a mention in the article – why not?????

2. City gardens are honeypots for bees - Harder for insects to find food in agricultural areas

Rhys Blakely, Science Correspondent <https://apple.news/AQOxpV8vESbaESk1o3D0Dgq>

Tuesday October 05 2021, 3.40pm BST, The Times

Many bee species, such as the brown-banded carder bee (right), are under threat from intensive farming.

Honeybees living in urban areas have easier access to food than their country cousins thanks to the work of city gardeners, a study suggests.

By decoding their “waggle dances” — a kind of shuffle that honeybees perform to tell the rest of their colony where to find nectar — researchers found that those living in agricultural areas travel further while foraging than those in central London.



3. DNA fingerprinting to detect adulterated honey imports in USA

<https://www.bee-culture.com/dna-true-honey-origin/>

US import of honey has almost doubled in the previous 10 years - from 251 million pounds in 2010 to 416 million pounds in 2019. Catching dodgy imports has now gone into forensics, with DNA of pollen and filtered components being checked for authenticity.

Check out this crochet/knitting project for Xmas.

Done by a friend of a friend of a friend of the Ed's. There is even a bee movie clip to go with it with “Maya the Bee” singing in top form, take a look at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cy3NHYNteOA>



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.

Biggest Shop Day on record

Hats off to The Club Shop organisers and volunteers who were busy during the week sweating it out and setting up our biggest day of purchases on record 83 orders were serviced and \$14,500 worth of gear sold. Why not buy your Shop Keepers a round at the Xmas Lunch?

The Shop runs on totally volunteer labor by Club Members/for Club Members. All material is provided almost at cost, with freight covered by the Club. Show your support by being patient, respectful and polite if your order takes a while, or there is a small mix up. Or better still, offer to help!!!

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.instagram.com/australiannativebeeassociation/>

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

General Meeting Minutes on 17/10/21 at HPSS

Opened 10:07

Chair: President Mick Olsen (MO)

Notes: Lindsay Trott

Apologies: Alana Z, Sandylee, Matt Wurshing, Vic Nicol, Joan and Tom Ruddell, Iain Gordon

Attendance book signed, COVID safe procedures outlined, QR test underway

Waited for late comers, and those confused by conflicting notice in Newsletter regarding venue location.

Welcomed new members and visitors

Small attendance – about 30 total.

Previous Minutes:

- Handed in survey of Michael Hooper Park
- Scout Hall on Maxwell Drive for purchase \$15K – still negotiating
- Steel fencing is coming for compound to house hives at Hooper park
- Open Day and Native Bee workshops a big success
- John Carr away for several months, Bee anatomy course went well, more in demand
- 2 x microscopes purchased, available to borrow
- Dave Turnbull Life Membership proposal from Jon McKinstry received, nominated MO, 2nd Frana M passed
- Xmas Party on 5 Dec already booked for Bohle Barn, Buy YO food, bar tab available
- Minutes OK, first MO, 2nd Frana M
- Business arising
- Nick Smith native bee course a success, more wanted
- Nick is offering courses for \$10 members, \$35 outsiders – 30 Oct next course at Hooper Park
- Open Day sponsors 4TTT offer taken up, interview with MO planned
- Mick Laffin has loaned the club a wax foundation set up, displayed at Open Day
- John Carr thanked for running anatomy workshops, first Beryl, 2nd Frana M.
- Grant Applications applied for by MO

Secretary: NA

Treasurer: \$50K I bank, #288 cash, no big purchases, membership and Shop purchases increasing

Shop: 1st Sat each month, price rises coming due to timber ad Nuplas, pink and blue Nuplas

General Business:

- Paul P asked for feedback on Open Day from members and sponsors
- Frana M ran a post day analysis, notes taken, TCC sent feedback, suggestions
- Letterbox drop around area was successful, no health issues or nuisance problems for residents with bees at Hooper Park
- Sausage sizzle was a great success for taking the load off members and including Sappers group to support community event
- TCC will do community event “3B’s” in May - bees, butterflies, birds
- Grants for activities will include World Bee Day – 8 May
- Girl Guides have requested bee demonstrations at Bluewater camp for 70 girls, Club has volunteered with 9 Club members, EHB equipment and - procedures, honey tasting etc and native bee live demos
- AFB notified from Belgian Gdns/Rowes Bay in past months – bee alert, and know how to act – ask for help
- Test kits available from Club, sterilizer available at \$25/ treatment

Next Meeting 21 Nov 10:00 am Hooper Park

Meeting Closed 10:40 am

AGM Minutes on 17/10/2021 at HPSS

Meeting opened 10:45 am

Chair: Paul Payne (PP)

Notes: Lindsay Trott

- MO thanked Naomi and family for support, Committee and volunteers for dedication

Annual Financial Report: Treasurer Frana M declared financial accounts open and have been sent for auditing

Annual income \$160K, expenditure \$148K, stock \$20K, assets \$60K

Shop Purchases: Honey jars \$20K, hardware \$70K, \$11K profit

Books available for inspection after audit

Accept financial report: Moved Beryl Smart, 2nd Lindsay Trott

- PP declared all Club positions open and needing new nominations for existing and some new committee positions - Membership, Native bees, Vice President, President, Secretary, Treasurer

- PP noted that MO is retiring and not seeking re-election

- 450+ Club members so we have large pool, but not many volunteers, Club is an incorporated body and needs a president and a Secretary.

- No written or emailed nominations for Office Holders

- One written nomination for Committee Member –Lisa Fenoglio

- Discussion and suggestions received.

- New Committee and Office Bearers for 21/22

Welcome to the Executive and Committee for 2021/22

Position	Name	Nominated	Seconded
President	Nick Smith	Frana McKinstry (FM)	Beryl Smart (BS)

Vice president	Mark Finn	FM	BS
Secretary	Lindsay Trott	BS	MO (Mick Olsen)
Treasurer	TBA	Jon McKinstry	BS
Assistant Treasurer	Frana McKinstry	MO	Lindsay Trott (LT)
Assistant Treasurer	Mandy Thomas	MO	FM
Newsletter	Lindsay Trott	FM	MO
Shop	TBA	FM	LT
Native bees	Nick Smith	BS	MO
Librarian	Beryl Smart	LT	FM
Website	Mick Olsen/Nick Smith	FM	LT

Committee Members:

Lisa Fenoglio, Maria Finn, Dan Killoran, Dorris Newitt, Naomi Olsen, Sandylee Hutchinson, Alan Ziegenfusz, John Carr

Meeting closed: 11:30 am

A couple of HPSS Hives were inspected, but only supers were checked, it was too hot for bees and people in suits, and for much else. Coffee, tea, biscuits and a chat was enjoyed by the small group who attended.

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.

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 2021/20222

President: Nick Smith

Vice President: Mark Finn

Secretary: Lindsay Trott

Treasurer: TBA

Treasurer's Assistant: Frana McKinstry

Treasurer's Assistant: Mandy Thomas

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

Newsletter: Lindsay Trott

Assistant Editor: Dr John Carr

Librarian: Beryl Smart

Webmaster: Mick Olsen/Nick Smith

Native bees: Nick Smith

Committee: Alan Ziegenfusz, Lisa Fenoglio, Paul Payne, Sandylee Hutchison, Maria Finn, Dan Killoran, Dorris Newitt, Naomi Olsen, John Carr

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.

I would like to include this section in the monthly Newsletter and to 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.

So, how about giving it a go? you don't even 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!! We would love to hear what you have been up to.

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::trott Lindsay@gmail.com](mailto:trott Lindsay@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

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