

Townsville and District Beekeepers Association (Inc)



PO Box 1115, Aitkenvale QLD 4814

www.beesnorth.com.au

Newsletter No 4, May 2022

In this Issue

- Open Day and Eco Fiesta and TCC Sustainability Day
- Dr John Carr on pollen and flowers
- \$2 bee coin, National Bee Pest program
- Club Shop looking for polite customers
- Bees on the Internet, bee trivia stuff, poetry
- Meeting minutes 24/4/2022
- Club officials' contacts
- New Shop prices now listed on the website:
<http://www.beesnorth.com.au>

Open Day

Saturday, 21 May 2022 10 am -3 pm
Hooper Park, Deeragun

Tell your friends and neighbours to vote early, and then come out to the Open Day for some bee focused entertainment and fun. Coffee van, food van, stalls, honey and bee stuff available

The Club Shop will usually open 1st Saturday of the month.
Please check the website for details

Volunteers needed for Bee Club Open Day 21 May – and before to prep and set up And for Eco Fiesta 4-5 June stalls and set up

Our club is holding an Open Day on Saturday 21 May at Hooper Park, Deeragun, this event is the first of two weeks of activities in conjunction with TCC, ending with Eco Fiesta on June 5. We will be highlighting all things bee-related, covering honeybees, stingless bees, and solitary native bees. Contact any of the Committee to offer help before, and on the day (it's also Election Day).

Townsville & District
BEEKEEPERS
ASSOCIATION INC

Open Day

**Saturday
May 21
10am
to 3pm**

MICHAEL HOOPER PARK, DEERAGUN

NO NATIVE BEES

MARKET STALLS HONEY BEE DEMO NATIVE BEE DEMO KIDS ACTIVITIES FACE PAINTING FOOD, COFFEE & LOTS MORE

Directions to Michael Hooper Park

Heading North on Bruce H'way, Highway A1
Right Turn at Deeragun Rd, at the traffic lights opposite Bohlevale School
Right Turn at 1st roundabout onto Geaney Lane
Go 2 ½ kms - Pass under the Townsville Ring Rd overpass
Turn Right at 1st road past the overpass - Leonie Rd
Turn 1 st Left at Maxwell Drive
Turn 2nd Right onto Isaac St
We are 250 m down at the end of the road

Club Member Profile – none again this month – where are you members?

Eco Fiesta has bees as the focus this year – 4-5 June, Anderson Gardens

This year's Eco Fiesta will take place on 4 and 5 June 2022 at Anderson Gardens and will focus on pollinators and their importance within our community. Discover how you can live a sustainable and more eco-friendly lifestyle at this FREE community event.

The Club will have native bee display hives, live honeybee displays, honey and products for sale, people to chat to, Dr Kim Prendergast the native and wild bee, wild scientist will be speaking.

The weekend will also include:

- guest speakers, an education hub with free workshops, live entertainment, delicious line-up of food trucks, fun activities for the kids,
- great range of market and exhibit stalls, free sprinkler swap (must bring old sprinkler to swap, one per household)

The event will also celebrate it's 30-year anniversary and have a particular focus on bees and will include a world record attempt of the Waggle Dance. This dance is based on Honeybees and the way they communicate in a dance.



The poster features a light green background with illustrations of bees and a wooden bee house. At the top left, it says 'Townsville City Council'. The main title 'ECO FIESTA' is in large green letters, with a bee flying over the 'O'. To the right are logos for 'City of Townsville', 'Townsville & District BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION INC', and 'NATIVE BEES'. A circular badge on the right says '30 YEARS OF ECO FIESTA'. The event details are listed in two columns for Saturday and Sunday. At the bottom, it says '100% single use plastic free event' and includes a search icon for 'What's On Townsville'.

Townsville City Council

ECO FIESTA

ANDERSON GARDENS | FREE ENTRY

Discover how you can live a sustainable and more eco-friendly lifestyle at this FREE community event.

The weekend will include **live entertainment**, a delicious line up of **food trucks, kids activities** and a great range of **market and exhibit stalls**.

SAT 4 JUNE 4:30PM

- The Buzz
Eco Fiesta Video & Creative Competition
- Guest Speaker

SUN 5 JUNE 9AM

- Guest Speaker
- Education Hub
Free workshops
- Free Cake
- Containers for Change
A pop-up recycle point provided by Environbank
- Waggle Dance
World Record attempt
- Plus get your photo with the Blue Banded Bee

100% single use plastic free event


What's On Townsville

Busy bees in May - Another event to showcase bees on 22 May

President Nick Smith will be there with some native bees to show off.

Learn how to integrate sustainability and increase resilience in your home by attending the Rowes Bay Sustainability Centre Open Day,



Sunday 22 May 2022 from 10am – 2pm 

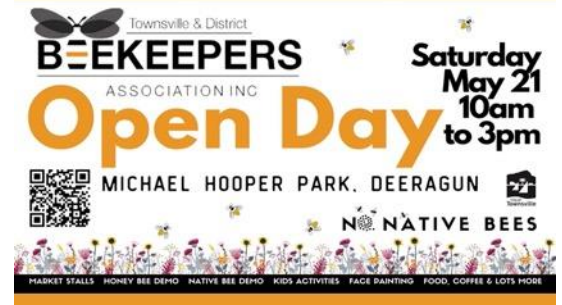
Bring your whole family along to this **free** community event. With something for everyone from wetland tours, an interactive kids corner, free pizza and more!

For more information, visit: <https://bit.ly/2X4wPUb>

Saturday 21 May is voting day so, vote early, vote often!!! (just joking)



And Dr John Carr s notified us of these Webinars below



Watch Our April BBVA Webinars

To watch the webinars that took place in April 2022 please click on the below imagery to be taken to the webinar video.

 <p>Wednesday April 6th, 8pm How to Vaccinate a Beehive Dalial Freitak https://us02web.zoom.us/j/webinar/register/?wn_00f9wXU79IGG8Ub8CW11_22</p>	<p>Wednesday April 6th, 8pm How to Vaccinate a Beehive Dalial Freitak Honeybees are the most managed insect species on Earth and essential for our way of life. Despite the enormous importance of bees, they do not benefit from preventative health care methods, like vaccination, used in other agriculturally important animals. Dalial will outline how, despite honeybees lacking antibodies, there is a hope that we can design vaccines for them. These will help us to keep our pollinator populations healthier in the future.</p>
 <p>Wednesday April 13th, 8pm The All-Ireland Pollinator Plan: Encouraging Biodiversity Action Across All Sectors Úna FitzPatrick https://us02web.zoom.us/j/webinar/register/?wn_09hky0u7HGR0t3Gf9rQDA</p>	<p>Wednesday April 13th, 8pm The All-Ireland Pollinator Plan: Encouraging Biodiversity Action Across All Sectors Dr Úna FitzPatrick One third of our 99 wild bee species are threatened with extinction from the island of Ireland. In publishing the first All-Ireland Pollinator Plan in 2015, Ireland became one of the first countries in Europe to address this issue in order to ensure the sustainability of our food, avoid additional economic impacts on agriculture, and protect the health of the environment. The first phase of the Plan has been very successful and has led to positive changes across all sectors. It is a shared plan. By together taking simple evidence-based actions, we can better protect our biodiversity. As we implement the second phase of the Pollinator Plan for 2021-2025, this talk will explore the lessons we have learned and will explain the many positive ways that you can help in the coming years.</p>
 <p>Wednesday April 20th, 8pm Honey Bees Fighting Back Against Varroa Stephen Martin https://us02web.zoom.us/j/webinar/register/?wn_ufLx8SG0JW70taVQBxVrg</p>	<p>Wednesday April 20th, 8pm Honey Bees Fighting Back Against Varroa Professor Stephen Martin Since the arrival of the Varroa mite from Asia, millions of honey bee colonies have died. For decades, beekeepers have continued to control Varroa populations by the use of chemicals and other invasive methods. However, throughout Africa and most of South and Central America mite-infested colonies survive without any form of mite-control. This has been linked with poor mite reproduction, although what causes this has remained unknown. Throughout Europe the USA and Wales an increasing number of naturally evolved, mite-tolerant colonies are being discovered. The talk will discuss the various tolerant mechanisms and how honey bee populations in Brazil, Cuba, Africa, USA and UK all appear to have evolved similar ways to combat the Varroa mite.</p>

A special article from Dr John Carr



Palynology

Explore the wonderful world of Pollen – palynology!.

Today's "Down the Microscope" is looking at another aspect of bee management. As with any production system food is a key to success. But what food are our bees enjoying and when!

It is possible to determine which flower our bees are visiting by looking at the honey and identifying the pollen in the honey. We need to be able to identify the pollen grains – which is not easy!!

Collecting the pollen

We can collect pollen from pollen baskets as the foraging bees enter the hive

We can look at the pollen stored in the pollen cells in the hive – although this is often different types, which can be recognised by the colour of the stored pollen.

We can concentrate the pollen grains in the honey using a centrifuge. Note honeydew honey will contain very little pollen grains as this is from secretions from sap sucking insects, not from the flowers.



Our bees entering the hive with their stores of pollen – note the different colours of pollen.

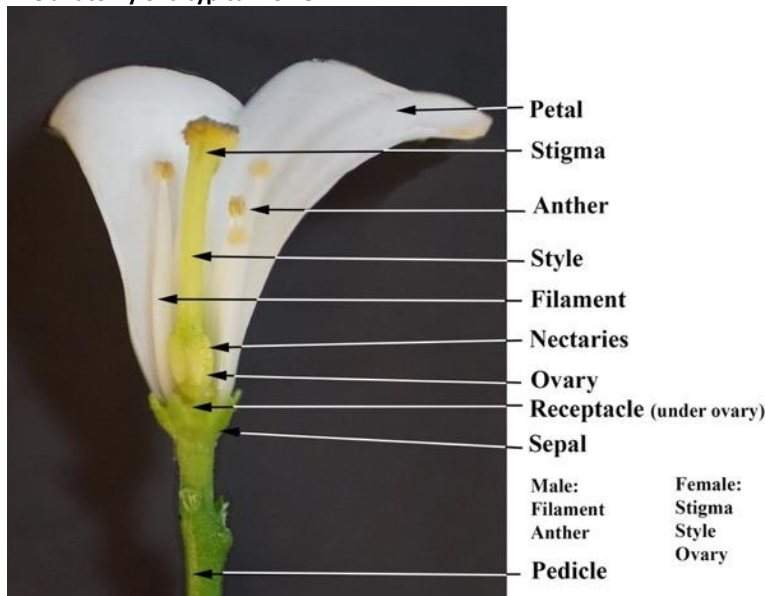
Staining and visualizing the pollen grains

This is actually quite easy – albeit it needs to be down the microscope. But the pollen grains can be highlighted and stained with Saffron infused gelatine. You need to be able to magnify the sample about 100* to be able to easily describe the pollen grains.

The pollen grains can then be visualised under a high power microscope.

The TDBAI Club is starting to collect samples of pollen so that this can be a reference

The anatomy of a typical flower:



What common pollen sources are available now – In the autumn in Townsville?

I have selected four flowers showing different shaped and structures to get the member's interest. In other newsletters we will illustrate other common pollen structures.

Daisy Asteraceae



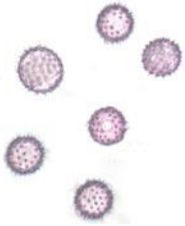
The Daisy flower in general



Bee view of flower



Dissection showing the anthers and pollen



The pollen grains are circular with spikes covering the surface. There are one to five germination pores – the central hole seen in one of the pollen grains shows on the left.

Chili/Capsicum - Solanaceae

These are not native but many of these plants are in our gardens



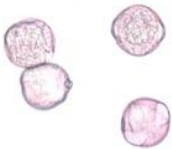
The capsicum plant



Detail of flower



Dissection of flower showing anthers covered in pollen



The pollen grain often appears 3 sided to round. But there are lobes often three on the pollen grain.

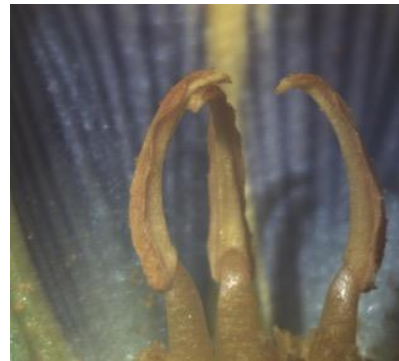
Morning glory - Ipomoea



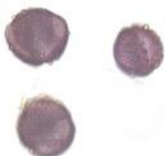
The plant



Detail of flower



Round pollen with small bubbles on the surface.

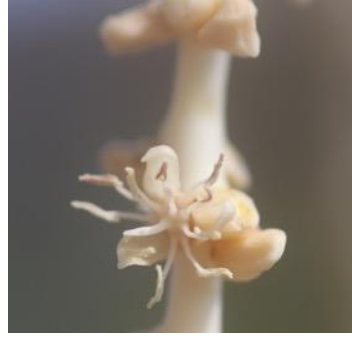


The surface of the pollen is pebbly.

Palm - Arecaceae



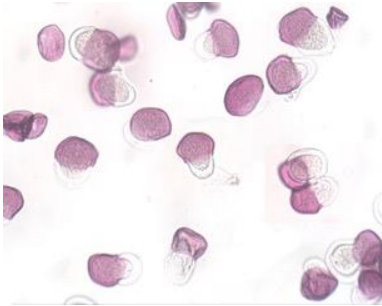
The plant – Alexander palm



Detail of flower



Dissection of flower showing anthers covered in pollen



The pollen partially takes up the saffron stain and results in a partially coloured pollen grain which is ovoid.

Bottle brush plant. Callistemon



Callistemon sp

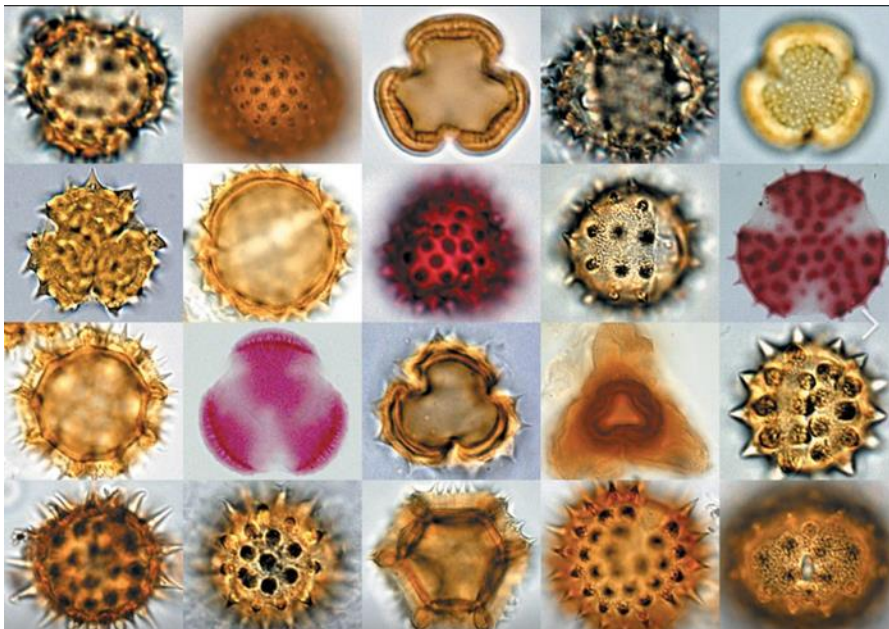


Detail of flower



Dissection of flower showing anthers covered in pollen

More pollen down the microscope



European honeybee immortalised on \$2 coin, amid controversy over the impact of introduced, non-native species

<https://theconversation.com/a-new-2-coin-features-the-introduced-honeybee-is-this-really-the-species-we-should-celebrate-181089>

The Royal Australian Mint has released a \$2 collectors' coin to celebrate 200 years since the introduction of the European honeybee.

At the time of writing, one of the 60,000 uncirculated coins was selling for as high as A\$36 – but that's not the only sting in the tail of this commemorative release.

The coin celebrates an invasive alien species, and continues a long tradition in Australia of romanticising introduced fauna.

Meanwhile, we've missed an important opportunity to showcase Australia's native pollinators, some of which are threatened with extinction. The coin was released to mark the bicentenary of Australia's honey bee industry. Honeybees were introduced to Australia by early European settlers and there are now about 530,000 managed honeybee colonies.

The commercial honeybee industry provides pollination services to a range of crops, as well as honey and beeswax products.

But the industry comes with costs as well as benefits. The introduced honeybee can escape managed hives to establish feral populations, which affect native species.

In New South Wales, feral honeybees are listed as a "key threatening process".

Honeybees can take over large tree hollows to build new colonies, potentially displacing native species. Tree hollows can take many decades to form and bee colonies occupy hollows for a long time – so this is a long-term problem for native bees.

Many other native species also rely on tree hollows for shelter and breeding, and are likely to be affected by competition from honeybees. They include at least 20% of birds including threatened species such as the superb parrot and glossy black cockatoo, as well as a range of native mammals and marsupials.

Honeybees, both feral and managed, also compete with native species for nectar and pollen in flowers. Research has shown honeybees often remove 80% or more of floral resources produced.



How long can a virgin queen remain unmated and still be viable?

The Ed was asking this question when I purchased some new queens recently. When I opened the hive, I found a small ?unmated ? queen still in the hive. What to do??? In the end, I removed the small ?unmated? queen and replaced her with a new plump new queen. I submitted the small queen to Dr John Carr who will dissect her and let us know if I decapitated a viable queen before her wedding day. Hopefully the new queen settles in and we find that the old queen was not viable – stay tuned for the forensic report from our CSI investigators.

Rusty at Honey Bee Suite discusses this issue further

https://www.honeybeesuite.com/a-virgin-queens-fertility-window/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=news_from_the_hive&utm_term=2022-04-28

National Bee Pest Surveillance program starts up gain

TDBAI Club members will be asked to keep an eye out for unusual bees or swarms again and carry out a couple of hive inspections using the old sugar shake or alcohol wash technique. A renewed program will commence soon with Roger Winton from DAF running the show. Most of the methods developed and perfected for detecting Asian honeybees in Townsville region during the previous program will be used. The program will concentrate on areas closer to Townsville Port, where the risk of pest incursion is considered "high".

Don't be alarmed if you see helium balloons drifting around in parks with queen pheromone dubbed onto small containers underneath – these are designed to attract any males hanging around waiting to mate with a virgin queen. And if you see someone with a battery operated vacuum cleaner sucking up dark pellets in the street, well that's just Roger collection vomited rainbow bee eater pellets. Those birds don't digest all the insect wings and bodies they eat, and their pellets are used to identify invasive Asian honeybee wings. The program will continue with sentinel hives within a few Kms of the Port, and Roger will be doing inspections with the sentinel hive owners, and some others, during the programme.

More details to come, but like all good Boy Scouts – "Be Prepared", and keep an eye on your hives. We have had Asian honeybee here in Townsville already with its own species of Varroa mite which was successfully controlled and eradicated with the cooperation of TDBAI Club members. The uncontrolled Asian honeybee invasion from Cairns has now reached Euramo, just north of Cardwell, Dimbulah west of Atherton Tablelands and around Mossman to the north of Pt Douglas.

Ukraine and Russia – National flowers, sunflower and chamomile – can they ever bloom in peace again?



Bees on the internet

A roundup of interesting articles on the internet about bees.

"NoMow" lawns in the UK benefit pollinators

The number of people choosing to leave their lawns unmown for the month of May has trebled in three years, according to the charity Plantlife, which is urging people to embrace the wild side.

Mowing less frequently and leaving lawns at different lengths throughout the summer results in an abundance of wild flowers, insects and birds as well as cutting the time spent on gardening upkeep. A survey of more than 2,000 people conducted by Plantlife has revealed a surge in popularity for its No Mow May campaign. Last year 78.8 per cent of the participants chose not to mow their lawns for a month before the survey, compared with 33.6 per cent of those who took part in 2019.

Those who did not mow their lawn in May last year reported more than 250 different plants among the grass, including wild strawberry, wild garlic, and rare species such as adder's-tongue fern, meadow saxifrage, snake's-head fritillary and eyebright.

Plantlife encourages gardeners to take part in an "every flower counts" citizen science survey of what is growing in the nation's lawns in the last week of May.

People recorded wild orchids growing on their unmown lawns, including species that have significantly declined, such as man and green-winged orchids. Almost 100 species of pollinators were found in 2021, including 25 types of moths and butterflies, and 24 different bees.

A typical lawn in the survey had 17 daisies on a one-metre-square patch, and a smattering of buttercups and dandelions, with germander speedwell and field forget-me-nots the next most likely to be seen. The flowers produce nectar and pollen for insects, with dandelion-rich lawns particularly wildlife-friendly.

"Embracing a little more wildness in our gardens can be a boon for plants, butterflies and bees," said Ian Dunn, chief executive of Plantlife.

Reported in The Sunday Times April 29 2022, The Times

Carpenter bees on Reunion Island pollinate greenhouse vegetables

Bumblebees have been used for nearly 30 years to fertilize greenhouse tomato crops, but they are not allowed to be imported to Reunion Island. This situation forces producers to resort to manual fertilization, a costly and time-consuming process.

But the situation is about to change thanks to researchers who have developed a new pollination method with a wild bee called the *Xylocopa fenestrata*.

ARMEFLHOR (Association for the Modernization of the Fruit, Vegetable and Horticultural Economy of Reunion Island) has developed, in partnership with CIRAD, a pollination method with the *Xylocopa fenestrata*, a species of Carpenter Bee that is native of the island and also known as the charcoal fly due to its colour.



The tests conducted on seven farms of the island show yields that are 20 to 30% higher than with manual fertilization, as well as better calibres and quality. "With this insect, the flowers turn into fruit, much like in metropolitan France with the use of bumblebees," explains Jean-Sébastien Cottineau, in charge of experimentation at ARMEFLHOR. "Concretely, we have a fertilization rate of 90%, sometimes even more in some areas, despite the succession of overcast days."

Source: techniques-ingenieur.fr

<https://www.hortidaily.com/article/9402139/reunion-new-pollinating-insect-to-fertilize-the-flowers-of-greenhouse-tomatoes/>

Honey used to construct computer memory chips – sweet memories?

<https://atelier.us4.list-manage.com/track/click?u=f7204e697ebd16299ab45914d&id=ae0baeb5cc&e=09cdd6b07c>

As the global chip shortage has been on the agenda for years, worries about it got even worse. On top of it, Russia's invasion of Ukraine has had a negative influence on the situation as well. Aren't there any good developments in the chip industry?

Well, it seems there is.

Engineers from Washington State University (WSU) have demonstrated that honey could be used to produce eco-friendly and brain-like computer chips, according to a study published in the Journal of Physics D.

Inspired by human synapses, researchers processed honey into a solid form and jammed it between two metal electrodes to produce a structured design

dubbed 'memristor.' Honey memristors are able to mimic human neurons and switch on and off very quickly while maintaining information.

"Honey does not spoil," said Feng Zhao, associate professor of WSU's School of Engineering and Computer Science and corresponding author of the study. "It has a very low moisture concentration, so bacteria cannot survive in it. This means these computer chips will be very stable and reliable for a very long time."

Currently, the size of the honey memristor is equivalent to human hair. But the research team aims at moving from micro-scale down to nano-scale, making memristors 1/1000 smaller in size.



A solution for electronic waste.

It's good news that with the use of honey, neuromorphic systems have become more organic in addition to their speed and energy efficiency compared to today's computer systems.

Unlike the non-renewable chips of today, these honey-based computer chips are very easy to dispose of thanks to their feature of dissolving in water. Their bio-degradability promise a solution for electronic waste that causes a threat to the environment with more than 22 million tons of waste piling up every year.

Apparently, honey memristors can be the long-needed solution for reducing electronic waste with their renewable and biodegradable structure. "Because of these special properties, honey is very useful for creating renewable and biodegradable neuromorphic systems," Zhao said.

Remember the Shop etiquette – politeness and patience are key components to success

To all visitors to our Club Shop – please be respectful, patient and polite to our Volunteer shopkeepers. We seem to be getting some aggressive and impolite attitudes from some customers. Please arrive with a smile, a dose of patience, and remember your manners.

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 **AND Pay** by Thursday midnight **before** the opening day, by email: shop@beesnorth.com.au
2. Bring your order number and print out of the request with you
3. 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.
4. Non-emailed or late orders may not get any attention if the Shop is too busy.
5. Please take your purchases and make room for the next shoppers, thanks

Meeting Minutes 24/04/2022 at the Club Shop

Chair: Nick Smith

Note taker: Lindsay Trott

Meeting Opened: 10:05

No apologies.

About 30 members and several visitors and potential members attended, all signed the attendance record.

Nick opened the meeting, welcomed and introduced visitors.

- Frana M described the operation of the Shop and the many new purchases for displays and activities for Open Day on 21 May
- New Shop items displayed, a soft flexible honey strainer at \$15, a frame cleaning tool at \$12 and a native bee poster at \$20
- Librarian Beryl briefly described the books, magazines and material available for loan, some good info for members there.
- Nick noted that Flow Hive have made us an ambassador for their products which benefits the club for 1 almost free Flowhive for every 10 sold, and an 8% discount for their material sold through the Club Shop. Any hive boxes obtained through this would be located in the hive compound at Hooper Park
- A fully transparent perspex hive box and honey spinner (see right), commissioned for Open Day and displays, were shown off – very impressive
- Mick O described his progress on the "Honey House" which is a small van with all the equipment needed to harvest, scrape, spin and bottle honey frames. Mick has been renovating this in between his travels and golf games. New frame, rebuilt floor etc – a fully reconditioned outfit with sink, electrical connections. It will be used in displays for public also.
- Mick O described his progress with Hutchinson Builders who have offered to provide much of the material for Hooper Park compound – sleepers, fencing, gravel, posts etc.
- Mick O and Nick described their proposed work on the shed at Hooper Park, like recladding, stud alterations and fixing appearance before Open Day
- Nick noted the Club has an application in for Gambling Fund grants for \$100K towards a Clubhouse and educational facility at Hooper Park
- Nick noted that TCC will help with getting a bee themed mural painted on the toilet block wall at Hooper Park



- Nick thanked Frana and Jon and all the volunteers who assisted in constructing over 300 bee motels for Open Day and Eco Fiesta. Some great handiwork and imaginative styles. TCC contracted the Club for these.
- Nick thanked all those who helped out at the Bunnings Easter Days stalls, and acknowledged the Bunnings donation of free vouchers and pollinator friendly native tubestock for the Club to give away at Open Day and Eco Fiesta. Plants included are grevillea, melaleuca, eucalyptus, pendas etc
- Request for Club members to offer help before and on the day at Open Day, and at Eco Fiesta – please come along and support the Club
- Open Day Banners, advertising, radio spots were discussed – noted it was same day as Federal Election but where would you rather bee?
- Frana M asked for volunteers to list themselves on the running sheet for activities – stall holders, honey selling, wax wraps
- Eco Fiesta 4-5 June in Anderson Park where the themes are 3B's – bees, butterflies and birds as pollinators. Club is focusing on bees and Nick will have live display hives of natives, and we will a live EHB Perspex hive also. Kit Prendergast will be there to talk and share her passion and knowledge of native bees
- Plant Health Australia will manage the new Biosecurity program for Asian honeybees and Varroa. This will be a smaller version of the previous successful campaign. Club members will asked to submit sugar shake or alcohol wash results – Roger Winton from DAF contact



10:35 Close

A few questions from the floor about DAF road signs maybe including notice about our Open Day??

Club Shop was opened before the meeting, and for an hour after the meeting. As always the Shop volunteers do a sterling job providing members with all their hive needs at reduced prices – give them some help if you can.

Beryl's Library Corner in action at the last meeting

Club Member Roslyn McGregor entertained the kids at Beryl's Library Corner with books and drawings about bees after the meeting, while the rest of us chewed the fat about bees.



Poets Corner

Just to prove that the Club has a cultural side to it, and is not all totally focused on bees (?), here is some poetry from the back label of my favourite food - Pic's peanut butter.

Whangaroa: by William Butler Smith

Early morning, dawn sky
a lighter shade of dark blue in the East
and the morning star shining.

I'd fed up with city life
I'm off up North for a while.
Doubtless Bay or Whangaroa.

Somewhere I can have a garden:
scarlet runners, baby marrows;
get an old fridge to smoke kahawai
and worry about the varroa mite
getting into my bee hives,
worry about the worm farm.

The sound of bees working the garden;
That's the life. I can hear them now,
Humming like tyres on the main road.

World Bee Day on Saturday 20 May 2023

Look here to find out about the how, why and what for about World Bee Day

<https://www.worldbeeday.org.au>

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/>

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 2021/2022

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, Doris Newitt, Naomi Olsen, Dr 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

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 couple of photos, including one of yourself 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

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: shop@beesnorth.com.au



Townsville & District

BEEKEEPERS



ASSOCIATION