

# Townsville and District Beekeepers Association (Inc)

PO Box 1115, Aitkenvale QLD 4814

[www.beesnorth.com.au](http://www.beesnorth.com.au)



## Newsletter No 7, August 2024

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## Next Meeting: New time in the arvo!

**Sunday 11 August 2024 @ 2 pm**

Ron and Doris Newitt's 51 Latchford St, Pimlico.

Bring a chair - tea coffee and nibbles available.

Free chats with experienced and novice beekeepers.

AGM to be held on 8 September

Check out the TDBAI website for background and why we need to eliminate this Townsville invader again – keep your beedy eyes open.

<https://beesnorth.com.au/asian-bees/>

## What do Asian Bees look like?



AHB on the left is smaller and more distinctively striped. AHB colony on the right

The QBA have reported that two separate detections have been made in the suburbs of Cluden and Fairfield. The bees have been genetically tested and results confirm the detection is linked to the endemic population in Cairns. Laboratory testing has found no evidence of varroa mite or exotic bee viruses.

There is a legal requirement in Queensland to report a sighting of AHB within 24 hours to Biosecurity on 13 25 23 or: <https://www.daf.qld.gov.au/contact>.

See more at:

<https://www.business.qld.gov.au/industries/farms-fishing-forestry/agriculture/biosecurity/animals/invasive/restricted/asian-honey-bees>

Our resident Bee Vet, Dr John Carr had this to say about the recent detection of AHB in Townsville.

"Genetic testing has also confirmed both populations are genetically linked to the endemic Cairns population and unlikely to be the result of a new incursion. With the current known southern extent of the Cairns population being Cardwell, these new detections indicate human assisted movement and not natural spread."

## Do the sugar shake on your hives and check for these blighters!

Contact Roger Winton or Rob Stephens immediately if you see any Varroa mites.

**Rob Stephens** Plant Biosecurity & Product Integrity

M 0407 374 232 E [robert.stephens@daf.qld.gov.au](mailto:robert.stephens@daf.qld.gov.au)



## QBA 120<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting/AHBIC Meeting

Sustainable Beekeeping Beyond Varroa

11-12 July 2024 Townsville

The Ed attended this year's meetings for the first time and was impressed by the range of topics and information. My Conference fees for attendance were subsidised by TDBAI, so thanks to the Club. Another 20 or so Members also attended. It's a great opportunity for Townsville beekeepers to gain a huge hit of info about the beekeeping and honey industry, pollinator industry and meet some of the brightest minds and keenest supporters of bees.

As the title of the meeting suggested, there was a lot about Varroa mite, treatment, chemicals, impacts, biosecurity responses, training of staff, monitoring hives, overseas experiences, genetics, remote monitoring of hives, Asian honeybee incursion and some info on honey chemistry and fraud contamination and what procedures are required to detect it. There was some really great food at the morning and arvo teas and lunches, and especially at the dinners with a fascinating honey sommelier providing a honey tasting expose one evening. These events allowed the attendees to mix and talk with fellow beeks, government and industry characters.

Federal and state polities gave short presentations that indicate that governments are aware of the value of the pollination and honey industry, and the impact that Varroa will have on agriculture and horticulture. As of writing, Varroa is currently only reported from NSW.

Here is a quick race through of some topics I quickly scrawled down, this is not complete or comprehensive, but these are the topics that caught my attention:

Cr Andrew Robinson (middle) attended the QBA conference Welcome Event, complete with his Bee Beanie. VP Frana and member Miles kept him company, see right.

Rob Stephens from DAFF spoke about Queensland biosecurity issues where there is an estimated 10,000 beekeepers with over 164,000 hives. A significant number of these are relatively new hobby beekeepers. Low numbers of beekeepers monitoring hives is a key concern.

Fiona Chambers CEO of the When Foundation spoke of her organisation's work with promoting pollinator health and bee research. Check out their Latest Buzz Newsletter at : <https://www.whenbeefoundation.org.au/latest-buzz/>

Dr Cooper Schouten from Sunshine Coast Uni encouraged more researchers to get involved in bee industry and gain experience to allow better knowledge exchange.

Prof Norberto Garcia spoke of the Argentinian experience with Varroa, introduced in 1976 from Japan to Paraguay. *Varroa destructor* initially came from Asian honeybee (AHB) where it had a controlled relationship, but on European honeybee (EHB) it grows faster and is not controlled due to the different lifestyle. Resistance to the miticides has already developed and now there are residues in honey and wax and production costs have increased.

Dr Diana Leemon spoke of new research investigating fungal biocontrol of Varroa and mentioned success with other fungal control programmes.

Dr Cecilia Villacorta-Rath described how environmental sampling of DNA in hives and other areas for DNA can help detect Varroa in small numbers.

Dr Etienne Bruneau described the many issues confronting beekeepers, their bees and their ability to cope with climate change. Hotter conditions lead to cooling efforts by bees but this activity costs the bees 1.4 times the effort of cooling. There are temperature effects on plants where sugar content and nectar amounts are altered and pollen protein is reduced. Foraging periods are altered, flowering periods are altered and may coincide with altered rain amounts and frequency leading to nutrition and energy problems. Fires, floods, thunderstorms and droughts are becoming unpredictable and more extreme. Pests can grow faster or slower, and brood in the hive for longer promotes more Varroa growth. Poor nutrition can increase the likelihood of SHB and chalkbrood.

Georgia Moore from Uni of Sunshine Coast gave a fascinating report on her MSc project that identified a fingerprint method for differentiating Australian honeys based on the chemical signature of phenolic compounds in the honey. She screened 110 different compounds and identified 56 that are natural to Australian honeys and can be used for authentication.

Chef extraordinaire Matt Golinski gave us a passionate presentation about the value in making culinary connections with producers and how this can lead to better outcomes for farmers, beekeepers and the dining public. He encouraged people to make the connection between production of a food item, the people who turn it into restaurant food and the dining public. Matt dished up some pretty fine food at the formal dinner, initial "meet and greet" and the honey tasting evening.



Jon Lockwood from AHBIC spoke about imported honeys and the effect that adverse news and publicity has on price and demand. About 8,000 Tonnes /year is imported into Australia, and it's been the same for several years. Only 5% of imports are tested and authenticated. Exports are the lowest since the 1960's. Around 200,000 new bee hives are now registered in Australia – about half are commercial and the other half are hobby. More unlevied is being sold than ever before by hobby beekeepers. Discussion of 4.6c/kg honey levy which pays for R+D, biosecurity and testing. Vertical transmission of viruses from imported honey not established, but needs more testing along with adulteration testing.

Dr Ros Gloag described how a survival hurdle was overcome by the Cairns incursion of AHB. Called a “genetic bottleneck”, the population that invaded came from one queen in one swarm colony only, so it was thought it did not have the broad genetic diversity to avoid becoming inbred and suffering a population downturn. There is inbreeding detectable on the North and South of the range of invasion, but it looks like our self inflicted “experiment” with the Cairns AHB incursion has shown us that it is more resilient than we had hoped for, and it's here to stay. Some of the AHB with the exact genetic make-up as from the Cairns incursion turned up in Townsville last month – hitchhikers on transport loads????

Prof Norberto Garcia revealed some of the inside info on honey fraud where a country reported 300% increase in honey exports but only a 30% increase in hive numbers. Eastern Asian countries are exporting 200% more honey than previous years. Europe is increasingly importing cheap honey and exporting local honey. What is “vegan” honey?

If you buy cheap honey at the supermarket, you are probably buying fraud honey. Testing for authenticity is a big deal, many tests and some good honeys fail the test. Need a co-ordinated and agreed set of standards – melissopalynology is the study of pollen in honey.

Dr Cooper Schouten gave a talk on treating Varroa in the tropics. There are some important differences to cold climate areas.

The pros and cons of Varroa in the tropics and sub tropics are:

Cons	Pros
No brood breaks – more mite growth	More queens
More mites	More bees (replacements)
More invasion/re-invasion	More bees (monitoring)
More treatments	More queen generations -faster breeding
Variable control efficiency Formic acid 30° C Thymol 40° C	More flora= more nutrition= More fat body= more varroa tolerance and pesticide tolerance
Limited data	

He commented that AFB spread may be affected but that spore transfer was a low risk – robbing and bee drift was much higher risk, and SHB treatments are not effective against Varroa and vice versa.

He indicated that proficiency in estimating Varroa mite loads is critical to successful treatment. Chemical miticide treatments can cost \$14/hive/treatment. At present 50-90% effective treatment can be achieved with non synthetic organic treatments to which, at present, have no resistance problems. Timing is everything, however, as capped drone brood can harbour mites that are not affected. Some of the chemicals (oxalic acid, formic acid) are toxic and lethal to both bees and humans alike, and are dangerous when mis-used.

Dr Chris Anderson from NSW DPI spoke of the possibility of a new variant of Small Hive Beetle (SHB) sourced from some banana crops. Estimates of 150-250 Varroa mites/week are entering some NSW hive entrances from the collapse of feral hives shedding their mites and bees absconding from collapsing hives. This initial wave of infections will need a multifactorial treatment and response effort and a 12 month plan for treatment and monitoring.

Joel Huperholz of Vimana Tech has been developing the Purple Hive programme (already in use at Townsville and Brisbane Ports) and has made progress with his BeeRight monitoring and detection system. The equipment can apparently detect the health of a hive, progress of Varroa treatments, and various other environmental parameters. It can use cellular and satellite connections, so could be placed in remote locations to check on hive health. How much??? ..stay tuned.

Bianca Giggins spoke of the visit to NZ with several Varroa Biosecurity Officers to learn and experience Varroa treatments and some of the issues related to getting on top it.

Jon Lockwood spoke of his Goldfields experience with 2,500 pollinating hives near Balranald that had to be euthanised, just a week or so before the “Transition to Management” order was applied that would have let him keep them alive. He had 1,000 hives in other locations pollinating canola, almonds and providing wax, honey and queens.

Jon Lockwood spoke about the tragedy of having to euthanise 2,500 hives on almond pollination near Balranald a mere 1 week before the “transition to management” announcement was made. He had another 1,000 hives in the Kempsey zone that were able to be maintained and serve the pollinating of canola and production of honey, wax and queens.

## Interview with David Routley from Outback Bee Company in WA

The Ed had a yarn to David at the QBA Annual Conference in Townsville.

David has been in the bee business since 2018 and runs around 1,200 hives in the SW region of WA. He runs a migratory hive regime where hives are relocated by semi-trailer to Kalbarri in winter using 96 hives per load on pallets. It's a 600 km drive North or a 1,000 km drive East to chase the flowerings and then 800 km South to get home again. His bees apparently show no problems on recovery after their overnight travel.

He has only 3 staff to run the whole show!!!!

His hives have no brood break as they are on local wildflowers now (eg banksia and acacia) and will move to canola next, providing year-round pollen and nectar. The canola is a free pollinating service, and while bees are not essential for canola pollination, it gives the bees a protein boost on their journey around the state.

David produces around 130 T honey and 9 T of pollen per year. His main business is not pollination services but selling pollen at \$17/kg is a big part of the return on investment.

WA is home to some very special plants with some powerful honeys and medicinals. The jarrah, marri, karri, wandoo and black butt forests produce honey with some amazingly effective anti-bacterials and their pollen is a great source of proteins and VFA's (volatile fatty acids – the bees knees in cattle nutrition). Jarrah honey especially has been shown to contain powerful antibacterial agents and wound healing properties. See photos at end of this interview.

The main risks for David's business come from:

Fires- there are prescribed burns every 7 years for the forest regions and David has to manage the movement of hives away from these regions and avoid them after burning.

National Park exclusions – there are some in place already but more will limit his access to good tucker for bees. Access to private land – cropping can change and is seasonal, some remnant bush is OK, but negotiations are required

Climate/ Weather – unseasonal storms in Jan/Feb recently knocked many flowers off trees, especially the red gum flowers.

Red dwarf honey bees- recently detected on Burrup Peninsula near Karratha is a long way away and separated from bush by some big salt pond production areas. It does have its own mite on board.



Pollen draw on top of hive with 3 days of collecting Marri pollen



Truck and trailer loaded with honey supers



Broad acre canola crop east of Perth Goomalling



Apiary in the southern Jarrah/Marri forest near Collie



96 triple hives on long pallets loaded up

**From the Ed:** Thanks David for taking the time out for a chat and sending these photos of you operation in WA.

## Treatment of persistent wounds with jarrah honey from WA

26 days treatment with Jarrah honey on human and 15 days treatment on dog  
(RJ Manning 2011)



*Eucalyptus marginata* (Jarrah)

## Matthew McConaughey shocks fans with confronting selfie

[The New Daily](#)

Jul 11, 2024, updated Jul 11, 2024

A swollen-faced Matthew McConaughey after being stung by a bee. [Photo: Instagram](#)

Matthew McConaughey has been inundated with support from fans after sharing a confronting snap of himself with his eye swollen shut due to a bee sting.

"Bee swell," the star captioned the Instagram post for his nearly 10 million followers on Wednesday (US time).

"How hard did Woody H hit you, man?" one commenter asked, referencing McConaughey's long-time buddy and fellow actor Woody Harrelson.

"Get well soon Mr McConaughey," wrote another. "Hopefully, you have an ice pack on your eye. Benadryl and hydrocortisone cream will have you feeling better in (no) time. Get your coolest shades on and know that your fans love you."

"Still better lookin' than me," wrote another.

In among the 350,000 likes and more than 10,000 comments on McConaughey's post was one from outdoorsman and [Man vs. Wild](#) host Bear Grylls. "Oh yeah brother! I've been there," he wrote, adding a laughing and winking emoji.

Soccer star David Beckham added a simple: "Ouch."

[The Gentlemen](#) star's level of swelling suggests he had an allergic reaction to his bee sting.

Better Health Victoria says bee stings can cause different reactions, from mild temporary pain and discomfort to significant swelling and a severe allergic reaction. In an extreme case, the person who has been stung might even experience anaphylaxis.

It advises treating the patient by removing the sting as soon as possible. Emergency help might be needed in more serious cases.

"If someone has been stung in the mouth or stung many times in a single incident (adults more than 10 times or children more than five times), they need to be taken to hospital," [Better Health Victoria says](#).

"Keep the person lying down and completely still (immobilised) until the ambulance arrives."

For less intense reactions, cold compresses and over-the-counter pain-killers can help reduce pain and swelling.



## ***Protein in Royal Jelly Causes Bee Stem Cells to Renew Themselves***

<https://www.bee-culture.com/catch-the-buzz-there-is-a-protein-in-royal-jelly-that-causes-bee-stem-cells-to-renew-themselves-so-queen-bees-are-bigger-and-contain-more-cells-than-worker-bees/> - The reason is that a jelly is what causes this.

Inside a hive, all females are the same when they are larval bees. Then, one female is selected as the queen bee, and she is fed a special diet of royal bee jelly. The jelly nurtures her into becoming the queen bee. The other females get a non-royal diet. Royal bee jelly is made by worker bees, for the sole purpose of developing a queen. As a result, adult queens are larger than the other bees, live longer and are the only fertile ones in the hive.

The reason is that a queen's stem cells can self-renew, but worker bees cannot. Just as hair or fingernail cells renew themselves and grow back after being cut, a queen bee's stem cells are continuously self-renewing.

The Stanford researchers found that a special protein within the royal jelly is what causes this. Like nature's copy machine, this protein causes the queen's stem cells to make many copies of themselves. And more cells make a bigger queen.

Stem cells in larval bees are ready to grow into different body parts such as adult wings, antennae and more. But royal jelly protein molecules cause a queen bee's stem cells to keep multiplying themselves, resulting in a larger body size. The protein that fuels this renewal was unknown before the Stanford study.

"There is a protein in royal jelly that causes bee stem cells to renew themselves, and this is what causes queen bees to be bigger and to contain more cells than worker bees," Wang said. This protein had never been observed in any other animal or human stem cells.

Wang's work was inspired by his curiosity about royal jelly's ancient reputation as a rejuvenating power. "In folklore, royal jelly is kind of like a super-medicine, particularly in Asia and Europe," Wang said.

Royal jelly has for centuries had a reputation for having fountain-of-youth qualities that keep its users young and vibrant. Ancient Greeks like Aristotle believed so adamantly that royal jelly increased intellect and physical strength that he served it to his students. Chinese emperors considered it to have Viagra-like powers. Egyptian pharaohs consumed royal jelly for its alleged rejuvenating powers, and it was one of Cleopatra's beauty secrets. Modern-day proponents continue to tout its anti-aging benefits, while skeptics ignore it. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has never approved it as safe. There has been little scientific evidence to support the historical claims that surround royal jelly. The medicinal usefulness of this glue-like substance has been debated for centuries, and now it is not likely to come unglued from modern science.

"The unexpected findings will likely invigorate the thousand-year-old debate about royal jelly's age-defying reputation," Wang said. "We provided concrete scientific evidence that the rumored effects of royal jelly have some biological basis." Royal jelly has a number of different components, but Wang's team isolated "the one protein that has never been seen before."

Human stem cells, when used safely, can repair diseased or injured body parts, from retinas in blind patients to lungs in fibrosis patients. The potential for treatment of a variety of medical conditions is enormous. Thanks to bees, scientists now know more about the healing power of stem cells — guided by how the royal jelly powers up the queen bee, which happens daily on county campuses.

## ***TDBAI Committee is involved in many activities – can you lend a hand?***

Contact any of the Committee Members to find out how to get involved

**St Benedicts School** had a visit from TDBAI Volunteers on 18 July for their Ecofest. Some very motivated young beekeepers amongst them. See the appreciation award at right

**Mates4Mates – 5 August**

**Townsville Homeschooling Group - 7 August**

**Rollingstone Pineapple Festival – 31 August**

**AGM and General Meeting – 13 October**

***Xmas Lunch Sunday 8 December at Bohle Barn***

Get your calendar sorted and be there.

### **Grants**

A number of grants have been advertised, we need a dedicated member or three to make application for these as they arise



The **next General Meeting** is scheduled for 11 August, at Ron & Doris' home in 51 Latchford St, Pimlico. This is the first meeting with new timing (second Sunday, 2pm start).

The **AGM** will be held on **13 October**, venue to be confirmed.

We will be seeking nominations for the following positions: if you are willing to be more involved with the club, please consider nominating yourself.

President

VP

Secretary

Treasurer

Events Coordinator

Newsletter Editor

Assistant Editor

Biosecurity Awareness

Membership officer

Shop Manager

Librarian

Website/Social Media

Community Liaison

Native Bees Rep

Committee Members

Christmas get-together, on Sunday 8 December, at the Bohle Barn Hotel.

## ***Beekeeping equipment from Slovenia - the home of World Bee Day***

Sent in by Miles Furnas



***Preserve your bees in Gold***

The Ed's daughter Carla is always on the prowl for a bee related topic and she captured this display in a jewellers shop in Sydney. Just think, there's another 50,000 girls in the hive that deserve preserving in gold.



## Bees on the internet

A roundup of interesting articles on the internet about bees.

Apparently Asian honey bees have perfected the “face slap” technique to keep their hives free of ants that want to invade their hives. It's all been revealed in some high speed video taken by Japanese researchers. Add this to their shimmering waves to frighten intruders and their “balling” behaviour to overheat and cook unwanted guests. This fast wing slap has not been observed in European honey bees

## Annual Membership Fees are due in July/August each year – now \$35/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.**

## Minutes of General Meeting TDBAI

**Monthly Meeting 21/7/24 at Michael Hooper Park**

Meeting opened 10am and conducted by Mark Finn as President and Acting Vice President (apology received) were absent.

Mark welcomed New and existing members and visitors.

Ron Newitt read AVP report to meeting.

Key items were:-

- . Books in Homes event at West End State School
- . Eco-fest at St Benedicts School
- . Rollingstone Buzz Day
- . QBA Conference

AVP thanked all volunteers who assisted at the above events.

**Up coming events:-**

- . Mates4Mates workshop
- . Townsville Home Schooling Education Day.

Al Cooney, a vet himself, gave us some back ground to Mates4Mates and said input by organisations such as The Bee Club are much appreciated.

. Meetings have been arranged with TCC to discuss options for a Club House. Up dates will be ongoing.

The above report was well received by attendees.

Lu presented the Treasurer's report.

. The shop continues to be the Clubs main source of income.

. AVP has applied for and is continuing to apply for grants and whilst amounts have been small, she has been very successful.

**General Business**

. Myles Furnas spoke about the QBA Conference and highlighted information which he had found interesting and informative.

. Pineapple Festival. Date to be advised. Club members encouraged to attend and sell honey and other products.

- Bee Shop. Club members encouraged to submit and pay for orders on-line by Thursday evening so orders can be pre-packed. Allowing the Saturday morning to run smoothly.

. Change of day and time monthly meetings. 2nd Sunday of the month commencing 2pm venue will be advised in Newsletter as venue will vary.

**Meeting closed** 11am and morning tea was served. Some members viewed hive openings with Ron who was assisted by Dennis.



A most enjoyable morning.

## ***Hive testing is part of every beekeeper's "Biosecurity Entity" obligation***

From Robert Stephens at Biosecurity Queensland

The Varroa mite in NSW serves as a timely reminder that beekeepers should be inspecting their hives every 16 weeks and reporting their results via the Bee123 survey form. It is vitally important that beekeepers report all negative test results and not just when they suspect something is wrong. This negative data is essential for showing the effort that your industry is going to and helps us provide evidence that Townsville continues to be free of Varroa and other bee pests and diseases. It's vital all beekeepers act now and look for varroa by using the alcohol wash and drone uncapping method, then report your surveillance results (including negative data) to the Bee 123 portal.

**Rob Stephens** Plant Biosecurity & Product Integrity M 0407 374 232 E [robert.stephens@daf.qld.gov.au](mailto:robert.stephens@daf.qld.gov.au) W [www.daf.qld.gov.au](http://www.daf.qld.gov.au)

## ***From the Club Shop volunteers***

**Update** – our website is up again, you can place your orders via [shop@beesnorth.com.au](mailto:shop@beesnorth.com.au)

Next shop opening is first Saturday of the month.

**Location:** 3/38 Rendle St, Aitkenvale

**Time:** 9am – 10:30am

Collection at other time by arrangement and when volunteers are available.

If you experience difficulty accessing the web site for orders, please use the following email address to contact the club for shop purchases and other queries – [tsvbeeclub@gmail.com](mailto:tsvbeeclub@gmail.com)

## ***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. Please arrive with a smile, a dose of patience, and remember your manners. We are doing this for fun. It's not a business, its run by volunteers

Email orders will be given priority and serviced – but walk in orders may be completed if time allows. Pre-order by email before midnight on the Thursday before shop opening time. Use this email address: [tsvbeeclub@gmail.com](mailto:tsvbeeclub@gmail.com)



## **Golden Rules for the Club Shop:**

Please follow this guide:

1. Order **AND Pay** by Thursday midnight **before** the opening day, by email: [tsvbeeclub@gmail.com](mailto:tsvbeeclub@gmail.com)
2. Bring your order number and print out of the request with you.
3. Arrive at the Shop **after** 9:00 am
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.

## ***Future Meetings – NOTE New time and location on Sunday arvo***

August 11 at 2 pm and location TBA – note new time and 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday

September AGM – Sunday 8 September at location TBA

## ***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 Bee Aware 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/>

## ***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/>

## E-mail contacts for the Office Holders 2023/24

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](mailto:president@beesnorth.com.au), [treasurer@beesnorth.com.au](mailto:treasurer@beesnorth.com.au), [shop@beesnorth.com.au](mailto:shop@beesnorth.com.au), [editor@beesnorth.com.au](mailto:editor@beesnorth.com.au)  
 And for all web and membership enquiries : [membership@beesnorth.com.au](mailto:membership@beesnorth.com.au)

## TDBAI Office holders and Committee for 2023/2024

Positions	Name		
President	Nick Smith		
Vice President	Frana McKinstry (Acting)		
Secretary	Liz Hennig		
Treasurer	Louise Clark		
Event Co-ordinator	Amanda Coldwell	Committee 1	TBA
QBA Co-ordinator (Temporary Position)	TBA	Committee 2	Danny Killoran
Community Liason Officer	TBA	Committee 3	Kristine Walker
Biosecurity Awareness Officer	John Carr	Committee 4	Ron Newitt
Newsletter Editor	Lindsay Trott	Committee 5	Doris Newitt
Assistant Editor	John Carr	Committee 6	Maria Finn
Membership Officer	Doretti DeGraaff	Committee 7	Greg Skellern
Shop Manager	Ron Newitt/Mark Finn	Committee 8	Lesley Barr
Shop Assistant	TBA	QBA Festival 2024 Sub Committee 1	TBA
Librarian	Beryl Smart	QBA Festival 2024 Sub Committee 2	Liz Hennig
Website/Social Media Officer	Amanda Coldwell	QBA Festival 2024 Sub Committee 3	TBA
Website/Social Media Officer	TBA	QBA Festival 2024 Sub Committee 4	Amanda Coldwell
Native Bees Representative	Nick Smith	QBA Festival 2024 Sub Committee 5	Nick Smith

## Swarm Contact List:

Please advise [Lindsay Trott](mailto:trottlindsay@gmail.com) (Editor) [trottlindsay@gmail.com](mailto:trottlindsay@gmail.com) 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.

### Swarm Collection

Alex Jenkins European Honey Bees **Townsville to Rollingstone** –  
 0459 472 166 Ben Taylor **Douglas/ Riverside Gardens** – 4728  
 4992/ 0428 186000  
 Duane Saltmer **Alice River** – 0400 339508  
 Nick Smith **Townsville & Surrounds** – European Honey Bees & Native Bees –  
 0438 033 301 Steve Kersnovske **Kelso** 0417 344 419  
 Sonya Verburgt **Gulliver** 0408 530 991  
 Sharene Dougall **Bluewater** 0415 426 903  
 Phillip Plant – European Honey Bees – **Townsville, Ayr, Rollingstone**  
 0456 191 000 Bruce Warren – Native Bees – **Townsville Area** – 0413  
 395 928  
 Bruce Mogensen – European Honey Bees – **Railway Estate/Idalia** – 0427 174  
 705  
 Liz Hennig – European Honey Bees – **Northern Beaches** – 0409067 367  
 Ronelle Nord **Alice River/ Rupertswood** 0417 752 622  
 Tito Parigi **Magnetic Island** 0418 796951

### Nest Removals from houses, Trees and other structures

Alex Jenkins European Honey Bees **Townsville to Rollingstone** –  
 0459 472 166 Phillip Plant – European Honey Bees – **Townsville,**  
**Ayr, Rollingstone** 0456 191 000

Remember that Varroa is down South and we don't want it up here – check those swarms.

## Editor needs your input – why not tell me your story? Club Member Profile

### Questionnaire

Send stories and pictures to : [trottlindsay@gmail.com](mailto:trottlindsay@gmail.com)

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!! Cheers The E

***Blooper of the Month? Send me your blooper for totally anonymous recognition- honestly***