Townsville and District Beekeepers Association

(Inc.)

www.beesnorth.com.au

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Newsletter No 3 April 2016

Next Meeting: Lola F's place
2:00 pm Sunday, 17 April 2016
193 Purono Parkway, Yabulu
Bring a hat and brolly/shade
Native hive split planned
Bring a chair - and a plate of food if you can

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Bees attempt to steal Army container!- plot foiled by Jon and Frana M.

(Who you gunna call?? - SwarmBusters)

An Australian Defence Force container was reportedly in the process of being stolen by an army of bees until our trusty "Swarm Warriors" strode in to town with their bee busting vacuum operated "Bee Vac" and no small amount of assistance from a fork lift. When asked after the rescue how he felt lying underneath a fully laden 10 tonne container with a fairly large hive of fully established and angry bees (this was no recently arrived friendly swarm), Jon replied - "I hoped the fork lift had it's hydraulics checked recently". The photos tell the story. Queen and hive were all reported to be doing well.

The bees are under the container - better make sure there are no explosives inside before the smoker lights up.

Just lift it a bit higher so someone can slide under.

Holy cow!! - that's no swarm - that's the biggest single hive seen

"Bee Vac" to the rescue - hope they don't drop the container!

Bucket o' Bees being loaded into a hive box

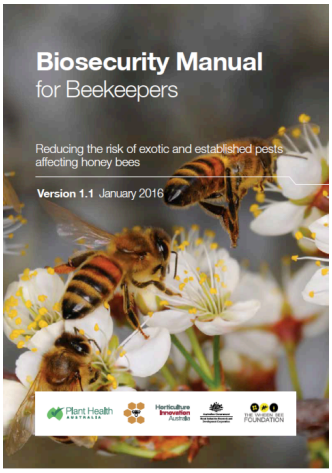
Hive box left in place for field bees to return to overnight.

News from around the hives

Our Facebook page could do with some more activity from Members "Townsville & District Beekeepers Assn Inc" Check it out, use it to get instant feedback from other people (not necessarily Club Members).

To all the "Newbees", Top Bar and Flow Hive owners out there, the TDBA Inc is a valuable and local source of advice, help and supplies of beekeeping equipment - including nuc and established hives, hive boxes, frames, foundation, beekeeper starter kits. We can help you get registered as a Beekeeper (a legal requirement in Qld to keep European honeybees) which gives you access to DAFF Biosecurity tests for pests and diseases. We want to help all local beekeepers to maintain healthy, happy bees, as it's in all our interests. Just ask a Club member.

Free Flow Hive Workshop for Club Members to be hosted by TDBA Inc will be from 2pm on Sunday 1st May, at NQWC Wildlife Centre, 25 Aitken Street, Aitkenvale. It is opposite the Kick Start Fitness Centre. . Registration is $40, or free to 'paid up' club members. Frana needs RSVPs for confirmed participants - numbers will be limited and interest will be keen. Contact Frana: franajon@gmail.com



It's **hive registration time** again- only $15.30 per year - please re-register, or if you have disposed of your hives let DAFF know, so that there is a reasonably accurate database of how many hives are out there, and where they are located.

Rob Stephens (DAFF Biosecurity Officer for our region) has asked for more people to do the **alcohol wash** test on brood from their hives. It's a small hassle to do this while tending to your bees, but it's a potentially big benefit to have the knowledge from the experts as to what pests and diseases might be lurking unseen in your hive. Give it a go - test material is free from Rob. Go here for the free Biosecurity manual:
http://beeaware.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/Biosecurity-Manual-for-Beekeepers.pdf

Eco Fiesta is on in Queen's Gardens, Townsville again on Sunday 29 May. Our stall gets a lot of interest and we need some volunteers (experienced or "Newbees") to help with setting up, talking, and packing up. Paul Payne will again be co-ordinating activities, so please offer him some assistance if you can - you don't have to be an expert to offer help on this day. More news at the April meeting.

AFB has been confirmed in a hive in Kelso - please check your brood and if unsure, ask someone who has seen it before. The best solution is to treat an infected hive as quickly as possible so that it does not spread to other hives nearby.

Honey beer label seen on Facebook recently. Fortunately they didn't try to put the website address on the beer label!

https://www.facebook.com/lisa.arronis.art/photos/a.1528520430802791.1073741828.1527919714196196/1619055588415941/?type=3&theater

Welcome to our new Members

Please make them welcome and help them get their interest in bees sorted out - become a mentor to a "Newbee".

Deb & Kel M from BLACK RIVER
Matt B from BLUEWATER
Nikkita Y from CRANBROOK
Lloyd B A from AITKENVALE
Gordon B from KELSO
Stacey G from BOWEN
Sue & Brian G from ALICE RIVER
Trevor D from GULLIVER
Barry M from ALICE RIVER

“Page 3 Girl” and “Page 3 Boy” - Equal Opportunity

This months pics from our members shows that you are not too afraid of your bees to “down tools” and pause to take some stunning pics of your little beauties. How about these stunners of a queen from Michael C, and a fresh young male from Gayle and Stan N:

Dave B gets “Fired Up” at our new Hermit Park SS home base.

Many thanks to the alert and attentive neighbours at Hermit Park SS at our new HQ and hive location. Smoke was detected coming from the hive area during our recent meeting - and the “Firies” were called in to save the day. Fortunately only Dave B was lead away for questioning. It’s good to know that the hives (and the school) will be closely monitored for any trouble.
Photos from Gayle and Stan N, and The Ed.

Frana M checking the new Hermit Park SS hive.

Looks like Carla K was the culprit with the smoke

Firies arrive, and Dave B is lead off for questioning.

The native bee hive looked like it was doing very well at it’s new home in the school grounds, and below, the crowd observing an inspection.

Did Napoleon have a bee in his bonnet? and what was it about bees that so fascinated him??

Napoleon's bicorne hat recently sold at Christie's Auctions for over $1mill - not bad for a sweaty piece of old felt around 250 years old.
http://www.christies.com/features/What-Napoleons-hat-tells-us-about-the-power-of-branding-6280-3.aspx

But where did the idea of those bees on Napoleon's coat of arms and the State flag of Elba Island in Tuscany come from?? Napoleon was banished to, and hung out in Tuscany on this beautiful island while he regrouped his "hard working, industrious workers and troops" for his big return to conquer Europe.

For a lengthy but thorough explanation of how bees inspired an Imperial logo and branding campaign, read here:
https://regencyredingote.wordpress.com/2010/10/22/the-bees-of-napoleon/

Elba Island flag

Napoleon in his Imperial cloak of bees.

What's that on my toast? - Is this edible art - or just plain un-lickable?

http://www.gq.com.au/lifestyle/art+design/galleries/photographer+dips+naked+bodies+in+honey+to+create+mesmerising+work,37833

Check out the whole page if you can, but I have included a couple of the more interesting things to do with any excess honey you have this season. And read some of the comments on the website condemning the photographer for wasting all that precious honey, and wasting all those poor hard working bees' efforts.

Award-winning photographer Blake Little is known for capturing the energy of his subjects. And for dipping them in honey. LA based Little took it upon himself to douse his scantily clad subject in honey for a series of work titled 'Preservation' last year. It may seem like an odd idea and one that screams "look at me", but the photographer is no pretender when it comes to shutter speeds and famous subjects.

The 'Preservation' images of nude or barely-clothed models covered in the amber liquid look more like grisly alien juice akin to a James Cameron Sci-Fi flick than it does the sugary goodness one might spread across their morning toast. However this simple, albeit odd, act transforms the figures in the lens, both animating and freezing the figure in a state of transformation. After pouring buckets of honey onto the models, Little allows the substance a moment to flow and dribble. Cascading into, around and across almost ever orifice, the honey exaggerates and elongates the figures' poses.

Little's resulting photographic series was featured in a book as well as in a show at Kopeikin Gallery in Los Angeles. The coffee-table tomb sized book is sure to grab any guests attention.

TDBA Inc MINUTES

General Meeting

Date: 20 March 2016 Time: 2pm **Venue**: Hermit Park S S, 5 Sussex St, Hermit Park
Welcome: by President
Present / Apologies: Refer to Attendance Book
Minutes of Previous Meeting: Mover: Ron Rapson, Seconded: Dave Bowtell

Business from Previous Meeting:
Hermit Park State School Hives:
Hive on site opened. School has 2 hives on order. Will transition the bees in current hive to new hive once received. School is happy that TDBA will assist with hives Facilities available at school for TDBA use
Trailer and Grant Applications:
Quote obtained and to be circulated to Executive. Grant opportunities will be considered once quote is considered
QBA Annual General Meeting Townsville
Conference in Townsville – July (dates to be confirmed and information to be provided in next Newsletter)
Dinner with Mackay and Cairns club proposed – details to be advised.
Correspondence:
QBA Annual Conference – request for 1 or 2 people to learn how to run honey competition. Volunteers: Jacinta and Paul Payne, Dan Horne, Chrystal Horne and Nathaniel Horne, Kirsty Sugden, Sonya Verbrught, Nikkita Young , Cristi Morf. Names to be provided to QBA. Further details to be provided.
President: Report N/A
Treasurer Report: Bank Balance $6200
Shop Report: Good range of stock available
Librarian Report: New Books:101 Problems with a Hive, ABK Latest Edition, Fat Bees Skinny Bees
Newsletter Report: Contributions required. Photos and short articles.

Special Business
Beekeeper Registration Renewals:
Due now. Please complete Small Hive Beetle Survey. New members to register
Proposed Workshop – Flow Hives:
Members have interest in workshop, Members free, Non Members to pay a fee. Date and details to be advised
Facebook Group Update:
TDBA "Page" now deactivated. You will now find TDBA "Group"
General Business
Eco Fiesta: Sunday29 May 2016, 9am – 3pm, TDBA Intend to Participate,Can Individuals sell Honey? Investigate. TDBA Banner: To be finalized by Sonya Verbrught
Librarian: Librarian: Kirsty Sugden
Newsletter (temporary): Temporary Newsletter Editor during Lindsay's absence: Tracey Braun

Dan Donovan – Discussion with Northern Rivers Beekeepers:
Flow Hive:
Feedback that some flow hive beekeepers have no intention to register
Risk associated with spread of disease
Campaign in our local region to educate new beekeepers
Top Bar Hive:
Developed for developing countries
Has only a top bar with the lower part being free form comb.
Every top bar has brood, pollen and honey.
Generally we separate our queens from honey super.
Disease:
Confirmed AFB in Kelso. Be on alert.
Biosecurity
Rob Stevens looking for more volunteers for metho test.
Next Meeting: 193 Purono Parkway, Yabulu – Lola Fontana and Sonia Corkery

Close Meeting: 3.38pm

Want to know anything about honey?

http://www.honey.com/honey-at-home/learn-about-honey/

Then check out the website of the National Honey Board from the USA. It's a well structured and packed with detailed information on honey, bees, and the industry. It also has some great sounding recipes, and this one sounds fantastic http://www.honey.com/recipes/c/desserts

Honey Almond Biscotti

Free Bee Venom at my angry hive

Want pay $1,000/kg for bee venom at the pharmacy?? or you can get it free straight from the hive at my place??-

National Conferences in Townsville July 2016

Put these dates in your diary - this is a fantastic opportunity to be smothered in bee and honey related information, new developments, research and face-to face contact with both small and big wheels in the bee business.

Annual National Conferences of:
Queensland Beekeepers Association on Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th July at the Mercure Inn, Townsville.
Australian Honey Bee Industry Council Friday 15th July, at the Mercure Inn, Townsville, followed by their AGM.

TDBA Inc Office Holders for 2015/2016

President:	Ron Rapson	ronald.i.rapson@team.telstra.com
Vice President:	Paul Payne	trapper4812@gmail.com
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Committee Members:	Dave Bowtell	spanner1969@gmail.com
	Dave Turnbull	turnbuld@bigpond.net.au

Honorary Members of the TDBA Inc

In recognition of their long term service and support of our Association.

Dennis ANGER	Graeme & Adele ARMSTRONG	Ken & Marcia CALEO
Dave HOEY	Mike & Jill JAMES	Doug & Sonya MCBRIDE

Club Shop Items- 2016 Price List

These prices are only available to current financial members

Item	Price $	Comment
Veil - Native bee	10.00	
Veil - cotton	15.00	
Veil - ventilated	20.00	
Jacket / Round hat	55.00	
Ventilated jacket	70.00	
Gloves	20.00	
Super — Rebated	25.00	Full depth, unassembled
Super - Dove tail	26.00	Full depth, unassembled
Super - Treated Ply	35.00	Full depth, unassembled
Hive Lids	25.00	
Blue Bees Base Board	35.00	**New**
Hive Bases	20.00	
Lifting Cleats (Handles)	5.00 pair	
Spring clips	2.00	
Hive tool (S/S)	15.00	
Hive tool (Yellow)	8.00	
Smoker	35.00	
Queen Excluder - Wire	20.00	
Queen Excluder - Plastic	6.00	
Frames - Full depth	1.50	
Foundation - Plastic	2.00	
Foundation - Wax	1.60	
Eyelets pkt 500	10.00	
Bee Brush - Natural bristle	10.00	
Bee Brush - Synthetic bristle	8.00	
Queen Catcher	3.00	
Frame Gripper	10.00	
Bee Feeder	1.50	
Gate valve	10.00	
Capping knife, serrated	15.00	
Emlock hive clamp	12.00	**New**
Comb scratcher	8.00	
Honey jars 250gm	0.65	
Honey jars 500gm	0.75	
Honey jars 1 kg	1.00	
Honey Pails 1kg	1.25	
Strainers (fit bucket)	80.00	**New**
TRAPS		
Apithor trap	6.00	
Silver Bullet trap	7.00	
BeetlTra bottom trap	20.00	
TK Beetle mat	6.00	
Booklet - Managing AFB	6.00	

TDBA Starter Kit - $95

The Perfect Gift for a budding Beekeeper

All available in Townsville:

Club Members Price Only!

Bee Jackets $55 Hive tool $8 Gloves $20

Smoker $35 Bee Brush $10,

All five items sold as a Beginners Kit $95

Contact: Frana: Ph. 0401 014 948

TDBA is proudly supported by:

THE AUSTRALIAN BEE-KEEPER MAGAZINE (ABK)

Published monthly Subscriptions $84 per year.

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PO Box 7124, Karabar NSW 2620

LOTS-A-STINGS

Honey, wax, boxes, frames, plastic foundation and much more.Pollination services. Will help new members get started with bees

.**Dan Donovan:** ***Ph 0428 218 816***

Townsville & District

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ASSOCIATION

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