

# Townsville and District Beekeepers Association (Inc.)

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



PO Box 1115, Aitkenvale QLD 4814

## Newsletter No 10 November 2018

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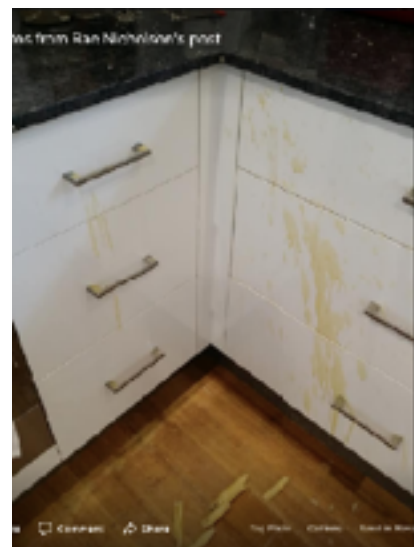
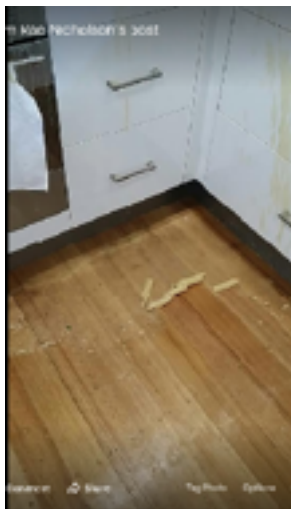
Next Meeting is the last for the year at :  
**Steve and Carla K's**  
2pm Sunday 18 November 2018  
1576 Riverway Drive, Kelso  
Bring a chair - and a plate of food to share if you can  
Tea, coffee, sugar and milk provided

## The great wax "incident" by A Non.

They say a picture is worth a thousand words, so I will not have to say too much about these. A prominent Club Member neglected all their own sage advice offered to newbees about the real dangers of wax melting, about not using an open flame, about not heating it too much, about not leaving it unattended, etc etc etc. The Ed had his own "incident" last year (featured in a previous Newsletter available through the website) where an electric frypan was left on and the wax caught fire, right beside the paint store with metho, acetone, thinners and a gas bottle. Luckily the smoke detectors alerted the Ed to the near loss of a timber Queenslander. So we all learn from our misdemeanours - hopefully.

Say no more, but here is the winner of this years 'Bee Blooper'. Apparently the wax all came off really easily and cleanly when it cooled down, it just peeled off, fortunately.

You can see more on the TDBA Facebook page.



## And.....

Just when you thought it was safe to re-enter the kitchen, along comes this piece of dubious advice from "the Buzz" website who suggest that you can use a plastic pressure cooker in a microwave to melt wax! See photo at right. Available on Amazon.



Standby for the next wax incident folks.

See: [https://honeybeesuite.com/rendering-beeswax-in-the-microwave/?utm\\_source=newsletter&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=news\\_from\\_the\\_hive&utm\\_term=2018-11-06](https://honeybeesuite.com/rendering-beeswax-in-the-microwave/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=news_from_the_hive&utm_term=2018-11-06)  
Microwaving bees wax in a plastic pressure cooker.

See: [https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B00065HO58/ref=as\\_at?imprToken=H-RhO3bqX-iRQKaR2dw1Q&slotNum=0&ie=UTF8&tag=honbeesui-20&camp=1789&creative=9325&linkCode=w61&creativeASIN=B00065HO58&linkId=93a4b050088ca0adfe8b12399d926609](https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B00065HO58/ref=as_at?imprToken=H-RhO3bqX-iRQKaR2dw1Q&slotNum=0&ie=UTF8&tag=honbeesui-20&camp=1789&creative=9325&linkCode=w61&creativeASIN=B00065HO58&linkId=93a4b050088ca0adfe8b12399d926609)

# Merry Xmas and Happy New Year to all our Club Members

## May your hives be full and healthy.

No December or January Meetings, but we reconvene as usual on the 3rd Sunday of the month : 17th February 2019  
 Many thanks to our Club Officials and volunteers who keep the Club running - without you there would be no Club

Xmas lunch in lieu of December meeting at Vale Hotel, 1st Sunday in December - details soon.

Just a reminder of how bees and other pollinators help out with a typical Xmas lunch feast, check this out. The image is called Come dine with bee



When looking for appropriate images for the Bee Club at Xmas I found this: Yes it's The **Bee** Gees at Xmas - I couldn't resist.

# Why go foundationless in your hive?

Posted December 16, 2015 by Hilary

<http://beekeepinglikeagirl.com/why-try-foundationless-beekeeping/>

**Ed:** This is a heavily edited version of the post on the internet site "Beekeeping Like a Girl"

**It's what the bees want.** Beekeepers have been using foundation sheets in the Langstroth frames since 1857, but bees have been building natural comb for millions of years. When you give bees the choice, they will always choose empty frames where they can build natural comb, over foundation frames. I have tested this in supers with empty frames vs. wax foundation frames and empty frames vs. plastic foundation frames. Each time, the bees chose to build natural comb and left the foundation frames alone until they completely ran out of space.

**Cleaner beeswax.** Wax foundation is made from recycled commercial beekeeper's beeswax. Studies have shown them to be heavily contaminated with agricultural pesticides and miticides. Pesticides bond easily to the oils in beeswax and can build up over time. So, it's likely that even natural combs will become contaminated with pesticides over time, but why contribute to that risk? These chemical contaminants have shown to disrupt bee development and lifespan as well as an increase incidences of queen failures. When you start out your hive with foundation, you are starting them off with pesticide tainted combs. (**Ed:** probably not a problem in Australia using clean )Ozzie beeswax

**Small cell size may help with mites and diseases.** In the early 1900's beekeepers began using foundation to increase cell size. Since brood is reared in cells, the size of the cell will determine the size of the bee. The idea was that bigger bees would be healthier and able to make more honey. Today, most foundation cell sizes are a uniform 5.3mm when natural cell size in the brood nest tends to be between 4.5 – 4.8mm and are not uniform. Many natural beekeepers have claimed that smaller cells help to keep varroa mites under control. **Less money, less work.** Wax foundation costs \$US 16-20 per 20 sheets. That's not too costly, but over time it does add up. More meaningful will be the time saved installing it. Sure, you will need to spend some time installing comb guides instead, but if you use a permanent guide, this only need be done once.

**Nature knows best.** I'm not sure why humans must learn this lesson over and over again. The more we interfere, the more problems we seem to cause. It does not take much sacrifice to let the bees build their own comb the way they have done for millions of years. Why do we purport to know better? On Michael Bush's website he quotes Eric Sevareid, "The leading cause of problems is solutions".

## Foundationless Myths

**Not giving bees foundation is setting them up for failure because it takes too much energy to build comb from scratch.** I will not dispute that it takes a tremendous amount of energy and food to build combs, but hey, that's what bees do! Feral bees build their own comb and survive just fine. The assumption with this statement is that beekeepers are saving their bees a lot of work and therefore allowing them to expand more quickly by giving them foundation. However, I consistently see bees draw out natural combs faster than the do foundation frames. On several occasions I have mentored first year beekeepers with nucs that were not expanding beyond their original frames. Per my suggestion, we removed the foundation from these frames and found that the bees began to happily draw out comb.

**You cannot extract with foundationless frames.** This is just not true. I have extracted with foundationless deep frames! However, you do need to take a care. The frames need to be attached on all four sides. Often bees only attach on three sides and leave the bottom unattached. I find that they usually will attach the bottom on heavy honey frames. Also, when extracting, you must go slowly at first, letting some of the honey lug out. Then, once the frames are a bit lighter, you can spin faster to get the remainder out. Crush and strain method is usually more practical for small scale beekeepers and it allows for a beeswax harvest as well. Some also recommend that you wire your frames.

**Your hive will become overrun with drones.** Depending on their genetics, bees raise 15-25% drones. Foundation suppresses this natural behavior because the cell sizes are too small to properly raise drones. If you start to convert a hive from foundation to foundationless, you should expect a burst in drone production. The bees have been denied the resources to make drones and they tend to compensate for that with a large number of drones.

## Drawbacks of going foundationless

**Foundationless beekeeping has a higher risk of cross-comb.** The main problem with foundationless frames is the potential for cross-comb. Many new beeks make the mistake of not providing an adequate comb guide and end up with a sticky, mess.

**Breaking old habits to avoid breaking combs.** Foundation allows beekeepers to flip and spin combs any which way they want. They can be handled without care, whereas as foundationless combs must be handled with more care or else they may break off.

**May produce less honey.** Some have observed that natural comb colonies make less honey. This is likely because they have a higher population of drones who will consume more honey. However, I find natural comb colonies store honey more efficiently because they tend to backfill drone comb with honey and often make extra thick honey frames. In my natural comb colonies, one deep honey frame may weigh up to 15lbs whereas foundation frames rarely weigh above 10lbs. I've never tested honey production of natural comb hives vs. foundation hives so I can't make any claims.

### Foundationless frames in my hive

From **The Ed:**

Here is my attempt at foundation less frames in a honey super using 3 tongue depressors as the top guide and 2 satay sticks for support in full depth frames. I coated the sticks and depressors in bees wax before I just pushed them into the groove on the top and bottom bars.

Left hand photos are after 3 days, right hand photos are 3 weeks. I have to say that I have never seen such fast comb drawn out or completed in 5 years of bee keeping. I had 2 of these frames in a honey super with partially drawn and honey on a plastic foundation. Maybe the bees do like making their own foundation??

I will replace some brood combs next and see what happens. I have heard that it's a good hygiene regime to replace around 10% of your waxed frames each year. This would be really easy way to have frames ready for use, without having to prepare plastic foundation or wired and wax ones.



## **Tales from the Deep North, Vol 1. with John Pavetto    Adventures with Hives**

Ian and John are the local swarm/hive removalists for the Ingham area. Their friend Bruce has a house with 2 big speakers (55 x 30 x 30 cm) perched on a shelf 2 m high in an open carport. Both speakers were full of bees and they were close by to the entrance door to the house, and it's a nice protected spot for the bees, but not so great for people.

The plan of operation for hive removal was to wait till almost dusk, then close off all the openings after the last field bees had got home. All went well, the tray back ute was reversed up under the speakers and foam and tape were applied liberally over the entrances. The speakers were then gently placed in a panel van for the ¾ hour trip to their new hive location. "Easy" – well, not quite. We missed a small hole in one of the speakers and when we arrived at the new location there were thousands of bees on top of one of the speakers and in the van. Most bees stayed on the speaker during removal but there were about two hundred agitated bees to get out of the van, which is difficult in the dark of night. We left them in the speakers for a week and then transferred them in to conventional hive boxes with frames.

The transfer from speakers to the new hive box with frames went fairly easily, the combs were built in fairly straight lines so we just cut them off and put them into empty frames and tied them in place with string. There was a lot of brood and bees, and a lot of honey, which got pretty messy with the spilt honey around the site. No SHB or wax moth were seen, an easy transfer, so we decided to leave it and check in one week for progress. The new location looked great beside a banana patch, close to water and with flowering mango and lychee trees near by.

The next week the "disaster" was discovered – the first hive was completely slimed out with thousands of SHB grubs crawling through the comb – and no bees! The second hive had a small batch of brood with about 200 bees and the rest of the frames slimed out with thousands of crawling grubs. We transferred the frame with the brood and bees into a 3 frame box and hoped for the best. Three weeks later the queen was still there and making brood, but we were not out of the woods – just hanging in there. Where there is life (and a queen), there is hope! How did this happen so quickly????

All that spilt honey created a first class attractant for SHB which must be living in the area of the fruit trees that have dropped fruit over a period of months creating a nice reservoir of pests. If we are to do it again, I suggest putting only a small amount of capped honey into the new hive boxes to encourage them to be protective of their new home, and shift this hive well away from any spilt honey. That's the plan for the next time.

Article by John Pavetto



Abandoned native hive above, and SHB larvae on the right. No slime apparent, wonder why??

**Eds note:** SHB are attracted to rotting fruit, compost bins, waste bits of wax and propolis in untidy bee yards - and of course a lovely honey and wax filled hive that is not well defended. Use the equipment available from the Club to help keep SHB at bay. We have Apithor traps, oil traps or use a Chux cloth.

And don't think native bee hives are immune from SHB attack. This is my 12 month old *T. hockingsi* hive that I didn't check in 2 weeks, and I lost the lot due to these blighters. What do you do with an abandoned native hive?



### **Native bee website**

This site has some really clear and easy to follow videos and tips on native beekeeping

[http://www.nativebuzz.net/?fbclid=IwAR1QsxVHmQGByal4wQsSjrUmrWiMfld4\\_6qNGKEg51455SSRFu0CfIFZGBs](http://www.nativebuzz.net/?fbclid=IwAR1QsxVHmQGByal4wQsSjrUmrWiMfld4_6qNGKEg51455SSRFu0CfIFZGBs)

## **Tales from the Deep North, Vol 2. with John Pavetto    Washing day**

Do you avoid washing your bee suit, just like me? Well I have the solution.

The suit gets quite grubby, mostly mould from sticky stuff but propolis and wax too. I use a 1/2 suit jacket with hood as its easy to put on and quick to take off between jobs when its hot. The last time I washed the coat it was quite a cumbersome heavy job, so the washing kept being put off until the coat became really grotty. Then a light bulb moment – ping- I just happened to be pressure washing the house mats which does a great job, so thought I would try the bee suit.

I sprayed mould killer over the grubby bits and hung the suit over a small step ladder and hit it with the water blaster, and achieved a marvelous easy clean. The sleeves kept flapping around a bit, so a piece of 75 x 50 mm timber up each sleeve solve the flapping problem. No heavy lifting, just leave in the sun to dry and so easy with the blaster – the coat will get a wash more often now.

John Pavetto

**Ed's comment:** I recommend not using bleach as this will shorten the life of the cotton and stitching, Nappy San or similar is a less aggressive chemical - and water blasting is pretty aggressive on material, go easy with that. Ed just washes his jacket and pants in a washing machine with normal detergent (warm wash will work better on wax and propolis). Remember to unzip and remove the veil before putting the jacket in the washing machine, as this will prevent holes from appearing, and just do a detergent hand wash and soak on the veil, not a vigorous thrashing in the machine or else the veil will develop holes rather quickly.

# Club member Beryl S visits Slovenia - almost 5% of the population are beekeepers

Article and pics from Beryl Smart

On a recent holiday in Slovenia I visited the Slovene Ethnographic Museum which had a very interesting display on the history of beekeeping in Slovenia. With a population of just over 2 million people this small central European country is said to have **90,000 beekeepers**. This bee passionate country was instrumental in partitioning the United Nations to declare 20th May World Bee Day which was first celebrated in 2018.

Slovenia proposed the celebration of World Bee Day in the month of May for several reasons. First, this is when bees in the northern hemisphere are most active and begin to reproduce. This is also the period in which the need for pollination is greatest. In the southern hemisphere it is autumn, a time for harvesting bee products and of days and weeks of honey. The specific day chosen, 20 May, is the birthday of Anton Janša (1734–1773), a pioneer of modern beekeeping and one of the greatest experts in this field in his day.



Bee skep made of rye straw



Bee skep made of stakes, willow & held together with a clay mixture.



Carrier for Kranjič beehives



Novelty beehives from 19th century



Beehive in the shape of a half block with a painted panel



Beehive cart for transporting bees to pastures, using Kranjič beehives-19th Cent.



Beehive made from an arms box after 1945

## New Items in Club Shop

Lifting handles \$15/pair - if you have a Flow Hive you will be needing these.

Queen marking pens of various colours \$5 ea..



Kranjič hive with a painted panel

## ***Bee Research Topics***

Alan Z sent in this curious collection of bee research topics from:

<https://modernfarmer.com/2018/10/the-buzz-over-high-tech-beehives/>

Researchers have developed new technologies that could change how beekeepers manage their hives. Here are four emerging tech tools aimed at helping beleaguered bees.

### **Meadow mics**

Researchers placed small microphones in alpine meadows to record the buzzing of bees. According to the 2017 study, the acoustics allowed scientists to gauge the number and species of bees in the meadows. Researchers hope that farmers could place microphones in their fields to monitor the pollination of fruits, vegetables and nuts and, in the absence of sufficient bee activity, rent additional hives.

### **BuzzBox**

For \$199, beekeepers can attach sensors to their beehives that monitor sound signatures, which can signal issues like missing queens, swarming and parasites. The BuzzBox hive health monitor sends alerts via smartphone app if something is amiss. "Early detection is the next best thing after prevention," says Aaron Makaruk, co-founder of OSBeehives, the start-up behind BuzzBox.

### **Thermosolar hive**

Chemical treatments are the first defense against the Varroa mites that decimate bee colonies. Czech beekeeper Roman Linhart designed a beehive with a rooftop solar panel that heats up the interior of the hive to temperatures that can be tolerated by bees but not Varroa mites. A 2016 crowdfunding campaign raised more than \$70,000 for the project; the patented hives were sent to backers who pledged at least \$650. The Thermosolar Hive isn't yet available to the general public.

### **Robot bees**

If honeybee populations plummet, drone pollinators could pick up the slack. Designs for robot bees are varied: Japanese scientists retrofitted a drone with gel-coated horsehair bristles to collect pollen grains, while the RoboBee developed at Harvard University has flapping wings. The working prototypes are a good "plan B," according to Shashi Shekhar, a computer science professor at the University of Minnesota. "If there are unanticipated surprises or if other measures of protecting bees aren't effective and we have a real shortage of bees in the future, we'll need artificial pollinators," says Shekhar

## ***SHB attracted to fermenting yeast and rotting fruit***

More research from Alan Z

[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/275411889\\_Increased\\_attractiveness\\_of\\_honeybee\\_hive\\_product\\_volatiles\\_to\\_adult\\_small\\_hive\\_beetle\\_Aethina\\_tumida\\_resulting\\_from\\_small\\_hive\\_beetle\\_larval\\_infestation](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/275411889_Increased_attractiveness_of_honeybee_hive_product_volatiles_to_adult_small_hive_beetle_Aethina_tumida_resulting_from_small_hive_beetle_larval_infestation)

We probably knew about this before, but it pays to have more info on the dreaded SHB. Some people use Vegemite or apple cider vinegar in their oil traps to attract any beetles. It's the fermented products that seem to attract them.

## ***Hundreds of bees mysteriously dropping dead in SA***

Sent in by Neal Elliman. Story from ABC News [Read the full story](#)

Peterborough mother Natasha Reid and daughter Acacia have been collecting dead bees to send to PIRSA. Mystery surrounds the deaths of hundreds of bees in South Australia's Mid North. Bees of all sizes have been found dead in backyards, near smaller hives, and near a large bee hive in the town of Peterborough. Peterborough local Natasha Reid and her daughter Acacia attempted to save some of the bees. "My daughter and I decided we'd try and see if they were dehydrated or maybe it was the birds.

**Ed:** I haven't been able to find out anything about the outcome of this story: was it poison?, hot weather?, new bee disease??

## ***Honey is the 3rd most adulterated food in the world, behind milk and olive oil***

Read more at <http://www.foodanddrinkbusiness.com.au/news/honey-scandal-hits-home#SQrC26K78AyGVFEG.99>

Australian honey testing and the scandal over the purity of honey continues with the release of a new study that implicates local honey.

The new study on the global honey industry conducted by Macquarie University scientists and peer reviewed and published in the Nature journal, Scientific Reports, looks at testing undertaken by the National Measurement Institute, the same high-security government lab used to test drugs seized by Border Force. The study found that almost one in five of 38 Australian honey samples sourced from supermarkets and markets had been adulterated by mixing honey with other non-honey substances.

The adulterated honey was sourced from Victoria, Queensland, NSW and Tasmania, while samples sourced from South Australia and Western Australia tested pure. "Manufacturers have been producing adulterated honey, which is typically bulked up with sugar syrup or other products, to boost production artificially," according to IBISWorld Senior Industry Analyst, Nathan Cloutman.

Previous controversy initiated discussions about honey testing methods but now with the latest report showing honey sourced along the eastern seaboard of Australia including boutique brands, to be fake, this global scandal over the impurity of honey is growing.

Results of the study are expected to put pressure on authorities to start testing local honey. In Australia, only imported honey is tested.

Using a reportedly decades-old C4 sugar test, only five per cent of imported honey is tested and the C4 test can't detect adulterations such as added rice syrup which is used by fraudsters to dilute honey.

Peter McDonald, the chairman of the Australia Honey Bee Industry Council (AHBIC), a peak body for the industry, said local honey was not tested by the authorities. "It is up to the individual companies that actually buy the honey to then test," he said.

The scientific team doing the testing was led by Professor Mark Taylor from the Faculty of Science and Engineering at Macquarie University who expressed surprised at the findings from Australian-sourced honey.

"We know that the issue of adulteration is a prevalent problem but we didn't think it would be that persistent in Australia for Australian-produced products."

Believing the research to be robust, Professor Taylor also stated the results could be conservative given the official honey test, the C4 test, was used, which has come under attack for its inability to detect substances used by fraudsters to beat the tests.

According to IBISWorld, global demand for honey shows no sign of slowing down, supporting Australian and Kiwi beekeepers, driving growth in honey production.

"Australian honey production has grown significantly over the past five years. Rising demand for honey has led agriculture companies to increase their output and encouraged new independent beekeepers to enter the market," Mr Cloutman says. "Domestic honey producers are also benefiting from Australia's reputation for producing high-quality agricultural products, with natural honey exports expected to grow at an annualised 8.8 per cent over the five years through 2018-19," he adds.

"However, high demand for honey is likely to continue incentivising companies to produce adulterated or counterfeit honey to increase output volumes."

Food fraud is a \$US40 billion a year industry and growing as criminal gangs exploit weak regulation and outdated government tests. Honey is reportedly the third most adulterated food in the world, behind milk and olive oil

## ***Club Shop as busy as a...bee (sorry)***

Alan Z took this pic during a break in a previous busy Saturday morning trading session. But nothing prepared the volunteers for the last Shop opening. People were lined up from 1/2 hr before opening, and there was a crowd for the whole 2 1/2 hrs. The Club sold over \$7,000 worth of goods and will need to re-stock before we open again.

We should acknowledge the time, effort, organisation and calm nature of the crew who operate this Shop that benefits the Members.

So, many thanks to **Frana and Jon McKinstry, Alan Ziegenfusz, Paul Walsh, Dan Zamykal, and Lynne Smith**



## ***Tales from the Deep North with John Pavetto, Vol 3 - Always expect the unexpected***

I cannot call myself a “newbee” any more as I have been at it for almost 3 years now, but by gee, I’ve got a lot to learn yet. I am located at the bottom of the Wet Tropics and just above the Dry Tropics in sugar cane country, where there are only thin lines of trees along the watercourses. This leaves the bees to gather food from grasses and weeds when tree flowering is not available. We also have healthy populations of small hive beetle (SHB), green tree ants, and a ground dwelling red ant similar in size that doesn’t bite you. We also have wax moth, rainbow bee eaters and toads. We have found that ants can wipe out a hive in a few hours. If you don’t catch them soon enough they will kill the queen and attack the larvae. So beekeeping has been a big learning experience of one step forwards and one step back.

In our latest drama, our hives appeared to be going very well before the “march of the “ants”. Hive No 1 was a nuc, and had filled up with brood so nicely that we added the honey super in only 4 months. We checked this hive in the morning and all was well, but at 6 pm it had come under severe red ant attack. We controlled the ants and thought all was OK – but no – 2 weeks later there was no brood, three weeks later, still no brood, and after closer inspection, no queen. The red ants must have got her 3 weeks ago even though the hive is on a stand with feet in oil containers. It appears that the strong winds had blown a pile of leaves on to one leg and given the ants a leg up.

During the same period, our strongest hive, 7 km away, stopped working vigorously and a check showed no queen and no brood. Now we had 2 hives in decline with no eggs/brood to rear their own queen, and no queens available for purchase. What to do now? We have thousands of worker bees about to die, and don’t want this to happen on our watch. We had 2 nucs located beside a swamp filled with lovely blue lily flowers which the bees were doing really well on. One nuc was going strongly and ready for a 10 frame honey super, the other had 8 frames and was going well too. The solution was to combine the queenless bees with the weaker of the two nucs and add the hive box with the most honey to the stronger of the two nucs. Sounds easy – it was easy.

With all the bees removed we added a box of 10 frames with most of the honey to the stronger nuc. We then placed a layer of paper from the fish and chip lunch over the queen excluder of the weaker nuc. We then placed the queenless hive with bees and honey frames on top of the paper, replaced the lid. Four days later all the bees were combined and working well. They had eaten a really large hole through the fish and chip paper. Then we added a layer of paper over the frames of this honey super, added a box of bees on frames from the other failing hive, and closed the lid.

This time we checked progress only one day later and the bees had already eaten through the paper, so we removed the top honey frames and encouraged the bees to move down to the lower super, and removed the now beeless box with frames and replaced the lid. Ten days later both hives are working strongly and I have a number of honey frames in the fridge ready for the next unplanned “event” to arise as you never know what to expect .

John Pavetto

## ***Swarm tree - strange fruit***

Sent in by Neal Elliman (unknown source)

Neal said:

“You might be interested. I want one of these trees ,too old to chase swarms just want to pick them up ,

Thanks, Neal”

Indeed, just imagine if you could plant one of these trees and just wait around for the swarms to appear, all at head height, no climbing, no ladders, flat grassy ground all around. I want one of these trees too!



## ***A Pretty Funny Guide to Yellow Stripey Things***

<https://theheartysoul.com/bee-vs-wasp/>

If you want to know what that yellow buzzy stripe thing is, here is a humorous description of the beasties, For example our Great Carpenter Bee is described as:

“Acts like it’s hot shit, but can’t actually hurt you – Has no concept of what glass is – Lives in your fence – Flies aggressively to try to scare you away”

# Meeting Minutes and AGM At Hermit Park State School 21-10-2018

Notes taken by - Lindsay Trott

## General Meeting TDBA Inc

Paul Payne chaired meeting due to Al Z being absent.

Attendance book was passed around, apologies noted.

Large number of Visitors on the day were welcomed, and around 40 Club members were in attendance.

**Previous Minutes** : were in October Newsletter, Accepted Ron Rapson, Seconded Beryl Smart

**Treasurers Report**: Currently \$14K in bank, many new members, Annual financial report going to auditors

**Library**: Kirsty Sugden retiring and handing over to Beryl Smart. Club has books, DVDs, ABK magazine for borrowing.

**Next Meeting**: Carla and Steve Kersnovske's at 1576 Riverway Drive, Kelso

## Items:

-December break-up will be a Xmas lunch at Vale Hotel on 1st Sunday in December - details to be notified.

- combined weekend with Mackay Club at Bowen doing barefoot bowls has not received much support, so possibly cancelled
- submission to TCC Sustainability Officer for consideration of a permanent clubhouse building undertaken by Al Z and Frana M
- Honey Month in May 2019, so Open Day moved to August 2019 due to too many activities
- question received regarding cotton Club shirts, and long sleeve
- Sonya V is the contact for the nuc availability list. Contact her if you are selling or buying a nuc or hive, and she will connect you [<sonyavverb@optusnet.com.au>](mailto:sonyavverb@optusnet.com.au)
- Brad from DAF summarised current Varroa and AHB status. Around 12 months of negative samples to go and we will be declared pest free. Please keep taking samples and submitting to DAF Biosecurity in Garbutt. The sample sheet is in the Newsletter.
- Jon M spoke of article in ABK about why bee stings hurt more at some times than others.
- Ian G spoke of the Biosecurity Meeting held in Townsville regarding AFB, AHB and Varroa, and will write a report for Newsletter
- Club Shop has some new items - queen excluder scratcher, timber nuc box, strainers, knife. New price list in this Newsletter. Shop is at 25 Castlemaine St Kirwan and open on 1st Saturday of the month from 8:30 - 10:00. Please send in an email prior to the day to enable packing of the order - it gets pretty busy [shop@beesnorth.com.au](mailto:shop@beesnorth.com.au)
- queens can be obtained from Graeme Armstrong if sufficient notice is given to the Club Shop. Frana prefers to provide a bulk order rather than individuals ringing and getting only 1 or 2 at a time.

- **Meeting Closed: 2:25 pm**

## Annual AGM was held immediately after the General Meeting

Ron Rapson chaired.

1. Minutes of last AGM accepted by Frana McKinstry and seconded by Kirsty Sugden

2. Treasury- Frana tabled the audited Club Annual Financial report for viewing at meeting as per club rules. Club very financial with over \$14,000 in Bank. Income of over \$72,000 with stock purchases around \$65,000 and expenditure around \$74,000 due to large stock purchases and around \$14,000 in stock on hand. Treasurers report accepted by Frana McKinstry and seconded by Dave Turnbull.

Alan Ziegenfusz retired from Club President, Paul Payne read Alan's letter of support for the new president and his offer to assist by remaining as Secretary. Meeting thanked Alan for his enthusiasm and success in addressing the numerous requests for information sessions and for keeping the Club in the minds of local Council in our drive to find a permanent clubhouse/home for the Club.

All Club office positions were declared vacant, Ron Rapson chaired the election process. No written Nominations received – all positions open

## Election of New Office Members 2018/2019

All Nominated, and Accepted by Nominees and all In favour voted in.

**President**- Mick Olsen

**Vice President**-Paul Payne

**Treasurer**- Frana McKinstry

**Secretary**- Alan Ziegenfusz

**Webmaster**: Ray Berkelmans

**Equipment Steward**: Frana McKinstry and Alan Ziegenfusz

**Librarian**-Beryl Smart

**Newsletter Editor**-Lindsay Trott

**Publicity Officer**: Sonya Verburt

**Committee Members**: Ian Gordon, Ian Goulevitch, Michelle Hasted, Waldon Edwards, Tom and Joan Ruddell.

## General Business for the AGM

**1/-Discussions of performance of Heat Chamber** to sterilise equipment for Club members with AFB Jon McKinstry spoke of the success with several treatments, but equipment does need to be well cleaned before treatment. AFB present in corners, wax and propolis so correct cleaning before and after required. Cleaned and scorched before placing in heat chamber. \$25 for Club members to use, arrange with an experienced Club member. Not suitable for plastic boxes or stickies. May warp frames. Individuals to adhere to operating system. AFB no longer a notifiable disease, 15 cases notified to Club last year. John Carr from JCU investigating aspects of AFB disinfection and spore killing.

**Meeting Closed at 2:50 pm**

**Next Meeting** is at 2pm Sunday 18 November 2018 at Carla and Steve K's at 1576 Riverway Drive, Kelso

Bring a chair - and a plate of food to share if you can. Tea, coffee, sugar and milk provided

## 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 newbees experience hive openings to become more confident, and you will learn more yourself by trying to explain what's going on in there.

Dave BOWTELL, Shane HARROLD, Andrew BROOKER, Graeme MIEGEL, Stephen LAGUNA, Peter COYNE, Richard BAYLISS, Timothy FIEGE, Joe SORBELLO, Doc HARVEY-SUTTON\*

## Annual Membership Fees for 2018/2019 are due in July - still only \$25/year

Membership fees can be made electronically to:

Name:- Townsville and District Beekeepers Association

BSB:- 633000

Account:- 141466078

Put your name and some details in the subject line, and email a copy of the receipt to [treasurer@beesnorth.com.au](mailto:treasurer@beesnorth.com.au)

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

## New emails and new Office Holders - welcome to the new President: Mick Olsen

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), [editor@beesnorth.com.au](mailto:editor@beesnorth.com.au) , [shop@beesnorth.com.au](mailto:shop@beesnorth.com.au)

And for all web and membership enquiries : [info@beesnorth.com.au](mailto:info@beesnorth.com.au).

### TDBA Inc Office Holders for 2016/2017

President:	Mick Olsen	<a href="mailto:president@beesnorth.com.au">president@beesnorth.com.au</a> or <a href="mailto:mick_naomi@bigpond.com">mick_naomi@bigpond.com</a>
Vice President:	Paul Payne	<a href="mailto:trapper4812@gmail.com">trapper4812@gmail.com</a>
Secretary:	Alan Ziegenfusz	<a href="mailto:alan.G.Ziegenfusz@team.telstra.com">alan.G.Ziegenfusz@team.telstra.com</a> .
Treasurer:	Frana McKinstry	<a href="mailto:franajon@gmail.com">franajon@gmail.com</a> , or: <a href="mailto:treasurer@beesnorth.com.au">treasurer@beesnorth.com.au</a>
Membership	Frana McKinstry	<a href="mailto:franajon@gmail.com">franajon@gmail.com</a> or <a href="mailto:info@beesnorth.com.au">info@beesnorth.com.au</a> .
Newsletter Editor:	Lindsay Trott	<a href="mailto:trottlindsay@gmail.com">trottlindsay@gmail.com</a> or: <a href="mailto:editor@beesnorth.com.au">editor@beesnorth.com.au</a>
Librarian:	Beryl Smart	<a href="mailto:smartberyl@gmail.com">smartberyl@gmail.com</a>
Equipment Stewards:...	Frana McKinstry/Alan Ziegenfusz	<a href="mailto:shop@beesnorth.com.au">shop@beesnorth.com.au</a> .
Webmaster:	Ray Berkelmans	<a href="mailto:rberkelm@gmail.com">rberkelm@gmail.com</a>
Publicity Officer:	Sonya Verburgt	<a href="mailto:sonyaverb@optusnet.com.au">sonyaverb@optusnet.com.au</a>
Committee Members:	Ian Gordon	
	Ian Goulevitch	
	<a href="mailto:Michelle.Hasted@iinet.net.au">Michelle Hasted</a>	
	Waldon Edwards	<a href="mailto:waldon.edwards@iinet.net.au">waldon.edwards@iinet.net.au</a>
	Tom and Joan Ruddell	

### Life 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

**Honorary Members of the TDBA Inc:** Graham Smith (deceased)



# Managed hive sample collection form

## Details of person completing the form

Inspector/Person(s) attending

BQ Officer  
Contractor  
Other

Date

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Attach sample no.(s) or barcode

Attach LIMS number

## Location details

Address

Nearest road

Locality

GPS Location

Latitude

Longitude

(WGS 84, decimal degrees)

 °S

 °E

Contact on site

Phone

## Hive details

Number of hives

Comments

HIN



## Surveillance details

Alcohol wash

Sugar shake

Drone uncapping

Approximate number of bees tested

Less than 300

~ 300

More than 300

Results/Detection

Positive

Negative

Unconfirmed

Sample submitted to DAF

Yes

No

## Office use only

### Sample receipt and dispatch

Date sample received by BQ

Comments



Sample dispatched to DAF BSL for analysis

No If no, provide reason

Yes If yes, provide date of dispatch and connote number

Sample entered into BORIS by

Date



### Laboratory results

Date results received

Results and action taken



Result entered into BORIS by

Date



## Privacy statement

The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries is collecting the information on this form as a record of surveillance activities conducted on managed bee hives under the National Varroa Mite Eradication Program. Summaries of managed hive surveillance may be provided to the Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests, formed by the Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources for the purpose of reporting against the National Response Plan for the Eradication of *Varroa jacobsoni* from Queensland. Your personal information will not be disclosed to any other parties unless authorised or required by law.

Please return this form to Biosecurity Queensland at PO Box 1085 Townsville 4810 or by email to [varroa@daf.qld.gov.au](mailto:varroa@daf.qld.gov.au)



## **TDBA Bee Starter Kit - \$110**

**The Perfect Gift for a budding Beekeeper**

**Available in Townsville from the Club Shop:**

**Club Members Price Only!**

**\$110**

*Hive tool, brush, cotton jacket/veil, gloves, and smoker*

**Contact: Club Shop Stewards - Frana M or Alan Z**

[shop@beesnorthcom.au](mailto:shop@beesnorthcom.au)



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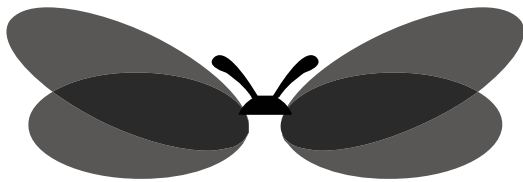
Coaching - Taxation - Accounting - Bookkeeping

### **LOTS-A-STINGS**

Raw honey, and pollination services.

Will help new members get started with bees

**Dan Donovan: Ph 0428 218 816**



**Townsville & District**

# **B=EEKEEPERS**

## **ASSOCIATION**

