Townsville & District

# BEEKEEPERS

ASSOCIATION INC

https://beesnorth.com.au

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**Newsletter No.3: April 2026**

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**Next Meeting:Varroa Controller Demonstration**

**Sunday 12 April 10 am till 2 pm**
**Charters Towers PCYC**
**29-35 Enterprise Rd**
**Charters Towers**

A light lunch will be provided

**RSVP for a booking and a seat on the bus!!!!**

## *Informative Varroa Controller workshop* ***hosted by TDBAI – and Ana and Sven***

***Find out more here***: https://varroacontrolleraustralia.com.au/


We started at 9am and took a break for lunch around 12:30 while the brood frames were being heat treated, while the afternoon wrapped up 3:30. Tea, coffee and water, and a light lunch were provided.
We worked with live frames of brood bees from hives that Frana and Jon brought in for the event. It was a really clear and thorough demonstration of a chemical free method of reducing varroa in hives, without the need for brood breaks, removing and storing honey supers during treatment, and with no residual chemicals in honey, wax, bees or boxes. It certainly has a great appeal. Because it's chemical free, there is no possibility of resistance developing to the method. It is used in Europe extensively ,but does not seem to have caught much attention in Australia. I suspect it will be ray of light for many beekeepers who will see that there may be a way forwards for their hives, without poisoning them or the beekeepers.

And thanks to some of our hardworking volunteers for helping run the show




## *President's Report*

Jon and I had a brief trip to NZ, so missed the March meeting which I believe went very well. We called into BeeQuip in Motueka and bought several items for 'show and tell' as well as having a good chat about the various varroa management options. On our return we were straight back into club bee business with a visit to the Home Hill SHS Ag-Fest where we discussed beekeeping with students from Charters Towers and Burdekin district schools. We came away having made several contacts for future events. This was followed by a visit to North Shore SS (4 sessions back-to-back with Grade 3 students) then the hugely successful Varroa Controller workshop on 29 March. We are rolling out these varroa controller workshops across the district and are anticipating going north as far as Cairns for a couple of sessions.

We're also working ahead on events – making 75 native bee hotels for TCC Sustainable Schools program and bottling 250 jars of honey for Rotary Club food hampers. So far, we've received enough honey from members to fill 135 jars, so please donate a kilo or two if you have extra.

Hoping all your bees are behaving and will remain varroa-free for a lot longer. It will eventually be detected locally, so Be Alert – Not Alarmed.

Frana

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## *MEETING MINUTES*

**MEETING: General Meeting**
DATE: 8 March 2026
Time: 2 pm
Venue: Hermit Park State School

Meeting Opened: 2.03 pm
Attendance: 20 members, 4 visitors and 3 apologies

Opening Statement Vice President Al welcomed members and guests. Advised President's absence - overseas travel.

Minutes of Previous Meeting: As per the Newsletter

Business arising from Previous Meeting: Nil

**Reports:**
Library - Beryl explained the borrowing process as we had 4 guests

Shop - Ron thanked volunteers who helped out on Friday and Saturday (6th and 7th March)
Spoke briefly about Computer problems and went on to say that all was up and running again.
Mentioned that 1litre squeeze jars were on sale and selling well. Asked for feedback - all positive replies.

**General Business:**
Mark and Maria - spoke about their recent visit to Sunshine Coast Bee Club premises. They touched on the layout - Honey and Wax rooms, Glass viewing areas, location of Hives, setting for Courses, Kitchen area and Security to name just a few.

Carla - advised that varroa had not come to the north yet. She touched on the issues involving long term use of only one

chemical and about her final days as a VDO and although her role been terminated, she is happy to answer and questions we might have. Sara and Tonia of the DPI can also be contacted for help and advice.

Carla than told us about her visit to Mudgee Honey Haven. Many exotic items were on sale including infused honeys, mead and cosmetic creams and lotions.

Discussion followed about the weather and the effect on our bees. In particularly swarms and slime outs.

Al then asked if anyone wanted to be added to the Swarm contact list. Carla, Sharon, Bosco and Gary will be added as contacts. Discussion than turned to the need for more Mentors and helpers to assist fellow members who may be ill or just overwhelmed with life.

Mark F offered to be a mentor and Sharon offered to be there as a helper.

Al promoted the free Varroa workshop 29th March. He stressed RSVPs are necessary.

Leslie asked for members to put pen to paper outlining their bee journey. Their story would be included in our Newsletter.

Advised next meeting 12 April would be held in Charters Towers. Venue and time to be published soon. Carpooling was suggested. Talk to fellow members.

Our 'special guest' was Al, and he passed on much information about Flow Hives.

He stressed that the care of the Flow Hive Brood Box was the same as the care given to Langstroth Brood box. Much interest and much discussion. Session was most informative.

If you have a suggestion for future speakers, please talk to a committee member.

General Meeting closed 3.00 pm, afternoon tea followed and chatting continued.

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**Meeting: Committee Meeting**
Date: 19 March 2026
Time: 6.00pm
Venue: Bohle Barn Meeting Room

Meeting Opened: 6.02 pm

Present: Frana McKinstry, Alan Cooney, Louise Clark, Doris Newitt, Ron Newitt, Mark Finn, Maria Finn, Beryl Smart, Jon McKinstry, Lindsay Trott, Greg Skellern, Carla Lisle, Tatianna Stefanos

Apologies: Liz Hennig, Blake Steward, Sharon Durham

Minutes of Previous Meeting (06/01/26): Mover: Frana McKinstry, Seconded: Beryl Smart

Business from Previous Meeting:
- List of equipment available for loan/hire to be created and listed on the website under Resources - ongoing.
- Blue Cards - members should link existing cards to club, and/or apply for a card through the club's CCYPG portal - ongoing.
- Committee access to club email addresses - ongoing.
- Blake suggestion re replacing AI pix with local pix on website - ongoing.

Calendar of Events 2026: Calendar of Events is now available on the Club Web page. Events are input once all details are finalised.

Website management: Toni McMahon has made a start. We will add a link button to take members directly to a Varroa Management page (under construction) and another to take beginners to a dedicated page.
Permanent Venue: Discussions continued as to availability and suitability of Cranbrook Park, Bicentennial Park and Kilcora Park

Grant Update:
NQGP - acquitted
RRSF - acquitted
GCBF - ongoing
DPI - in progress
BRAVUS - applications now opened $10,000

General Business:

- SHOP: Running smoothly
- COWBOY HOUSE: Slime out with one of the hives the rest doing well.
- COMPUTERS: Two computers have been purchased and are up and running. Purchase to buy approved at last committee meeting.
- GUEST SPEAKER: Graham Armstrong has offered to speak. Other suggestions were made – ongoing
- NEWSLETTER: Editor, Lindsay discussed the possibility of altering the format of the newsletter. Committee agreed. He would like more member to submit bee stories, good or bad, for publication. Please help Lindsay out with a story.
- HIVE HEALTH: The re-occurring message - check your hives regularly. There is more than just Varroa. AFB and Chalk Brood just to mention two of many.
- VARROA CONTROLLER WORKSHOP: Planning of finer details. Hosting of Presenters, hiring of chairs, Morning and Afternoon teas, Lunch, Cold water, Thank You Gift etc.
- QUEENS: Frana will ask Graham Armstrong if he can supply marked Queens and what the cost would be.
- Suggested that we invite schools to be Associate Members of the club, in order to increase our exposure as an educational entity, to assist in Grants applications.
- Suggested that we have a dedicated Meet & Greet member at each meeting, to ensure newbies stay engaged.
- TRAINING SESSIONS: Carla tabled a proposal to undertake beginning beekeeping courses on behalf of the club. In principle agreement for this. Much discussion took place ranging from Topics, Trainers, Venues, Advertising, Cost and Participants. We have asked Carla to submit a written proposal for discussion.

ECO-FEST: To be held 7 June. Request for Volunteers to help with set up on 6 June, Manning on the day and pack up. All assistance will be appreciated.

This event clashes with a workshop to be hosted by the Gold Coast Bee Club. Details have not yet been officially advised.

EVENTS: As per calendar, volunteers always welcomer. Pineapple Festival may not be going ahead.

COMMITTEE MEETING DATES: Refer to online calendar

MEETING CLOSED 7.58PM

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## *Varroa Controller Workshops and Demo – they are Free!!!!!*

Take a bus to Charters Towers!
If you missed the Varroa Controller workshop in Townsville last month, we will be running it again in Charters Towers on 12 April. We have a 10 seater minibus organised, book your seats now and let us take care of the cost. Departure point and time TBA.

**Sunday 12 April - 10am till 2pm** : a light lunch will be provided
Charters Towers PCYC
29-35 Enterprise Rd
Charters Towers
**RSVP please for catering purposes.**

Meetings will also be held in the Ingham district, the Burdekin and Innisfail/Cairns area later
The focus of this meeting will be a presentation on and practical demonstration of the Varroa Controller machine. Other varroa management options will also be on display. The meeting is open to all interested people and is being advertised in the local paper.

## *Where to go for help or advice about Varroa*

If you need assistance or have questions, you can reach the VMIRI team at: varroa@dpi.qld.gov.
Two of Queensland's former VDOs have taken on new roles within the VMIRI program and are also available to contact:

Sarah Hickman – Engagement Officer 0436 848 913 sarah.hickman@dpi.qld.gov.au
Tonia Johnson – Bee Biosecurity Officer (BBO) 0439 269 892 tonia.johnson@dpi.qld.gov.au
bee.biosecurity@dpi.qld.gov.au

Monitoring still matters. Please continue performing your alcohol washes and drone uncappings and remember to report results through the Bee 123 form . Regular monitoring is one of the most important tools we have to detect varroa early and reduce its impact when it reaches North Queensland.

Currently, in Brisbane, many beekeepers — even those actively monitoring and treating — have experienced significant hive losses due to unmanaged or feral colonies around them. Early detection will continue to help us respond quickly and protect healthy hives before infestations escalate.
Thank you all for the support, conversations, and commitment you've shown throughout my time as VDO. Keep looking after yourselves, your bees, and stay connected with each other as we continue preparing for varroa in North Queensland.
Carla.

Drone uncapping for a quick and dirty Varroa inspection – not as good as the alcohol wash but better than nothing

## *Club Activities*

TDBAI has been active with school visits and inspiring a new band of beekeepers recently. The schools were very appreciative of the excellent display material, the professional speakers and dedication and time given by the band of the volunteers.

## *North Shore State School visit by TDBAI*

North Shore State School
Aspire Together - Achieve Together


## *Home Hill State High School visit by TDBAI*


## *Internet and Random News*

### *Ron Newitt reckons he won't be getting mail today*

There was a certain buzz about Ron's letter box recently. No fear about getting any junk mail delivered, or losing that winning cheque from the TattsLotto mob to some pilfering fingers.

## *Both the bees, and our environment benefit from diversity*

**The Ed:** We hear a lot about diversity these days, - biodiversity, genetic diversity, gender diversity, cultural diversity etc. However, for those of you focused on bees, I have something that, hopefully, will demonstrate the value of all of these topics in the article outlined below.

### Mad honey honeybees are not silly

https://beeculture.com/observations-of-apis-laboriosa-nesting-patterns-migration-and-high-altitude-foraging-behavior/

*Apis laboriosa,* generally known as the giant Himalayan honeybee (also found in Turkey), displays unique behaviours not present in other species of bees. Their hives are huge, extending several metres, different from what's normally found around us, and are hidden on the overhangs of cliffs high as hundreds of metres above the ground. The remarkable nesting allows them to thrive in high-altitude environments. Their foraging habits are also distinctive; they skilfully navigate the sparse, wind-swept flora of the Himalayas to collect nectar and pollen, thriving in conditions where few other pollinators can survive.
Another impressive aspect of their behaviour is seasonal migration. The colonies of *Apis laboriosa* relocate to lower altitudes to optimise food availability and environmental conditions, which shows they understand and can adapt likewise in challenging surroundings. The combination of cliffside nesting, high-altitude foraging and strategic migration makes this species a strong and specialized creature, and thus, an interesting study subject to both researchers and honey hunters.

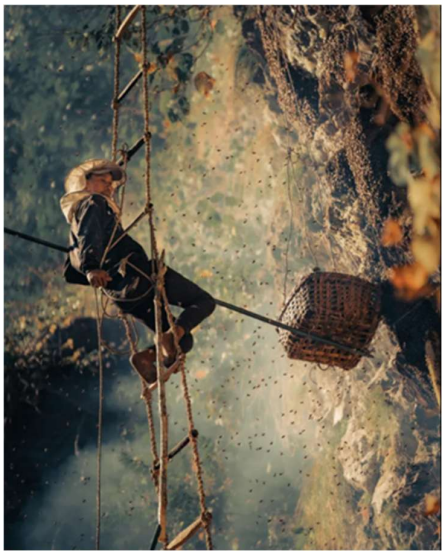
**Nesting Patterns**
*Apis laboriosa* nesting patterns are unique, they can survive at heights up to 4,000 feet, and their nests are crucial to their protection in extreme conditions of the Himalayan region.
The nests are built only on deep overhangs that block their view from sky level, protecting them from predator birds. They never choose flat surfaces of cliffs, a protective behaviour against enemies and the unpredictable weather of the mountains. The hives are huge, as broad as several metres, and quite heavy, making them stable enough that winds can't bring them down.
A huge number of bees can be found in a single hive that maintains warmth among the whole colony, added to that, multiple queens are in a single hive. This helps secure future generations, and ensures efficient reproduction. The original nesting site is left during Winter, either they move down to lower altitudes to escape heavy snowfall or they find hollow trees where they can settle till the temperature rises.

**Migration Patterns**
The migration is a key part of their survival. The freezing climate makes it impossible for the colony to survive. The seasonal migration brings the entire colony to the lower heights below, where climate is not that harsh. Once they sense the temperature is warm enough and stable for survival, they come back to the original nesting sites in the higher cliffs, returning to rebuild and expand the old nests.
Queens leave empty cells at both altitudes, suggesting a coordinated cycle where both locations, upper cliffs and lower forests, play essential roles in the continuation of the colony.

**High-Altitude Foraging Behaviour**
Worker bees fly in the thin mountain air only when the conditions are suitable to forage on the flowers growing about the rugged Himalayan terrain. Their foraging time is strictly coordinated with the temperature, sunlight and the brief flowering periods at high altitudes.
The bees cease foraging during and when the higher areas are frozen. Survival depends on the stored honey and pollen accumulated during the short productive season- a trait necessary to survive the long Himalayan winter.

**Ecological Significance**
*Apis laboriosa* plays a significant role in contributing to maintaining the ecological balance of high-altitude regions of the Himalayas. As one of the few pollinators capable of surviving in such harsh conditions, these bees help in the reproduction of alpine plants- their role is crucial especially for plants depending on insects for pollination, like rhododendrons, wild herbs and mountain shrubs, which form the foundation of the local food web.

The foraging habit of the **Himalayan giant honeybees** does not just maintain the variety of plants, but also makes the soil on steep slopes stable, as healthy vegetation prevents soil erosion and landslides. They also indirectly support wildlife which relies on these ecosystems to live by pollinating plants which support herbivores and shelter smaller organisms. Their presence is therefore a positive indication of the health and stability of the high-altitude ecosystem and their decline can be the pointer of the larger environmental imbalances in the Himalayan mountains.



**Environmental Adaptation and Survival**

*Apis laboriosa* has survived due to their adaptation to the landscape that is inhospitable for the majority of species on earth. In the course of evolution, they have developed a huge body and stronger wings, which allows them to stay warm in the cold and take flights that won't fail in the thin air. Their nesting on the cliffs, how they can construct on the overhangs that conceal their colonies, protects them from predators and extreme weather conditions like heavy rain and snow in their alpine locations.

Seasonal migration is a unique adaptation in bees that allows them to survive in the extreme cold. Their nesting behaviour in groups also assists them in producing and preserving warmth, important in keeping the brood temperatures optimal even when the changes in weather are sudden. Another important adaptation is the formation of multiple queen cells in the hive, which enhances genetic continuity and makes reproduction in the colony not rely on the survival of a single queen.

The way Himalayan giant honey bees have developed a set of behavioral and structural adaptations enables them to survive the unpredictable weather patterns, especially the brief flowering periods and rugged terrain of the Himalayas. Through these adaptations, they've not only survived but also have become one of the most resilient pollinators of the area.

**Conclusion**

The habits of *Apis laboriosa* – its peculiar nesting habits, its strategic migration, and its extraordinary foraging at high altitudes- highlight a species which has been perfectly engineered by nature to live in the most extreme environments. Their existence is a sign of biological resilience and an key species of the fragile ecosystem that is totally dependent on a small creature that most of us rarely know about. Understanding and protecting this species is important because its disappearance will impact not only the mountain biodiversity but also the culture of the native communities who have depended on it for a long time.

A few organisations, like **Medicinal Mad Honey**, have been working with local communities for over a decade to ensure ethical, sustainable harvesting of honey and advocating for the protection of Himalayan Giant Bees in Nepal.

**Medicinal Mad Honey organisation website**

https://medicinalmadhoney.com/?srsltid=AfmBOoonmNgXp68ht6keahFPonPq5iU3r-yiDCTvalca4Zx3ZqRyiQNR

Mad Honey, known as deli bal is a rare and potent honey produced by *Apis laboriosa*, the Himalayan giant bee that collect nectar primarily from the flowers of certain rhododendron species, particularly *Rhododendron ponticum* and wildflowers from Nepal. For thousands of years, the Gurung natives, with their age-old honey-hunting traditions, have avidly celebrated this honey for its healing and recreational medicinal purposes.

Mad honey contains grayanotoxin ( GTX ) which is the unique neurotoxin found in wild rhododendron flowers. This compound has psychedelic and hallucinatory effects. The effects may also include delirium, vertigo, nausea, psychedelic optical effects such as tunnel vision and whirling lights, hallucinations, and impaired speech where syllables and words are spoken out of sequence. The recovery time ranges from hours to days, but most symptoms typically subside after 12 hours.

And if you want read about how mad honey has been used throughout history to stupefy and defeat formidable armies, read this. Greek, Roman, Russian, Ukrainian and even fairly recent US military incidents:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mad_honey

## *Bees can breathe under water! – are these bumblebees or "bubblebees"?*

*Sent in by Dr John Carr*

We don't have bubblebees! but Tasmania does.
We have big bees, such as Carpenter bees that look a bit like bumblebees, and they "overwinter" when it rains in the wet season in January, February, March

In the study referred to, the hibernating bumblebee *Bombus impatiens* are able to survive a week under water. The hibernating bee does not die when their burrow becomes water-logged. There are two theories published in the Journal Proceedings of the Royal Society B.

The bees in hibernation lower their oxygen consumption by a massive 99% of normal levels, and this was seen to be5 even more when under water. The bees under water supplement their breathing with anaerobic respiration.
They also have a bubble of air making a thin layer of air around the bee allowing oxygen to enter and carbon dioxide to leave. This may also explain how larvae survive in the pool of royal jelly as one side is completely submerged and not able to breathe and there are no connections with the tracheal (air) system.

Dr John Carr has also sent in news from WA beekeepers, who are preparing for incursions of various pests from "back East". Interesting to read that tere are 43,000 registered beekeepers in Australia and approx. 800, 000 hives.
Read about it all here:https://bicwa.com.au/so/bbPqpyhhU?languageTag=en&cid=3614c88f-6584-4095-a050-42d4743860e1

## *Science knows of 21,000 bee species, but there are likely thousands more*

A new paper provides the first statistically derived estimate of bee species richness around the world. But this is about more than bees. Read in The Conversation: https://apple.news/AzTxQCL7USoWlc-gHG47MVg

## *Honey bee industry disappointed by inconclusive Varroa investigation*

https://tab.beekeepers.asn.au/issue-april-2026/ahbic-response
Most observers and beekeeping organisations are pretty disappointed with the contents of the official report into the source of the Varroa incursion into Australia and its initial detection in Williamtown and Port of Newcastle. The Australian industry produces around 37,000 tonnes of honey annually, generating approximately $264 million in hive product value, while pollination services directly contribute an estimated $4.6 billion to the national economy each year.
Read the brief summary of the official report:https://tab.beekeepers.asn.au/issue-april-2026/varroa-report

Australian Honey Bee INDUSTRY COUNCIL

## *Norroa - Another potential treatment for Varroa*

Vadescana [marketed under brand name Norroa] works through a mechanism called RNA interference (using double-stranded RNA, or dsRNA), which prevents the expression of a specific gene that the varroa mite needs to survive. USA EPA's webpage provides more information about how this mechanism of action differs from the mRNA technologies used in some vaccines.
The effects of Vadescana are highly specific to varroa mites. It does not affect humans or other non-target organisms, including bees and threatened or endangered species. These products provide a way to control varroa mites and can aid combating resistance to pesticides for varroa control. EPA proposed to register Vadescana in May 2025 and took public comment on its proposal. The agency has also established a permanent tolerance exemption for residues of Vadescana based on EPA's determination that Vadescana does not pose a risk to human health. NOTE: not approved for use in Australia yet.

https://americanbeejournal.com/epa-approves-vadescana-a-new-varroa-treatment/

## *Reminders for membership renewal are sent by email – now $35/p.a.*

Membership fees can be made electronically to:
Townsville and District Beekeepers
BSB: 633 000
Account: 141 466 078

**Please make sure you add your Surname or subscription number so that your membership can be signed off.**

## *Club Shop – now a shop, swap and stop – and sell*

We will have a gazebo set up with new items on show and a coffee machine, so call in or stay on after collecting your order. A great opportunity to ask questions about your bees, or just to have a chat. We will also have a Buy Swap Sell table, not limited to beekeeping items. feel free to bring things along.
Shoppers – log onto the website and place your order there: Accounts\Shop
Alternatively you can place your orders via email shop@beesnorth.com.au Shop opening is first Saturday of the month.
**Saturday 11 April from 9am to 10:30am**

**Location:** 3/38 Rendle St, Aitkenvale
**Time:** 9am – 10:30am

Collection at other times by arrangement and when volunteers are available.
Email orders will be given priority and serviced – but walk in orders may be completed if time allows. Pre-order before midnight on the Thursday before shop opening time.
Email orders will be given priority and serviced – but walk in orders may be completed if time allows. Pre-order before midnight on the Thursday before shop opening time.

## *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.

## Wheen Bee Foundation

Keep up to date with the latest news and research from the Wheen Bee Foundation which is an Australian not-for-profit charity that promotes awareness of the importance of bees for food security and raises funds for research.
Their newsletter provides very informative industry updates as well as education on bees. Check out their page and subscribe to their newsletter here

## *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/

## *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

## *TDBAI Office holders and Committee for 2025/2026*

| Position | Name | Contact |
|---|---|---|
| **President** | Frana McKinstry | president@beesnorth.com.au |
| **Vice President** | Al Cooney | |
| **Secretary** | Doris Newitt | secretary@beesnorth.com.au |
| **Treasurer** | Louise Clark | treasurer@beesnorth.com.au |
| **Event Co-Ordinator** | vacant | |
| **Biosecurity Awareness Officer** | John Carr | |
| **Newsletter Editor** | Lindsay Trott | editor@beesnorth.com.au |
| **Assistant Editor** | Lesley Barr | |
| **Membership Officer** | Frana McKinstry | membership@beesnorth.com.au |
| **Shop Managers** | Ron Newitt & Mark Finn | shop@beesnorth.com.au |
| **Shop Assistant** | N/A | |
| **Librarian** | Beryl Smart | |
| **Website** | vacant | |
| **Native Bees Representative** | Jon McKinstry | |
| **Committee 1** | Maria Finn | |
| **Committee 2** | Greg Skellern | |
| **Committee 3** | Carla Kersnovske | |
| **Committee 4** | Blake Steward | |
| **Committee 5** | Liz Hennig | |
| **Committee 6** | Sharon Durham | |
| **Committee 7** | Tatiana Stefanos | |

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

Send stories and pictures to :
Lindsay Trott: trottlindsay@gmail.com Or: Lesley Barr <lesleybarr@y7mail.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 Ed.

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