



**Amateur
Beekeepers
Association**
NSW MID NORTH COAST

The Bee Line

**Newsletter of the Mid North Coast Amateur
Beekeeping Association**

Join us on Facebook at http://www.facebook.com/Mid-North-Coast-Amateur_Beekeepers-Association-Inc-333496536672637

September 2020 Newsletter

MNC ABA President's Report

It is always great to see a good roll up of keen beekeepers. Sharing information and experiences with the like-minded makes us better beekeepers. Sometimes the information can be confusing or overwhelming. The old adage of asking three different people the same question and getting three different answers, applies at times here as well.

The weather was perfect for the meeting and the inspection of Matt's hives. As there were quite a few of us, we divided into three groups for the inspections. Matt uses a mix of full depth and ideal boxes which suits his style of operation. The hives were well set out on level ground, all strapped with emlocks, grass mown etc. A picture of a good operation. We were envious of Matt's shed and honey room. His split boom hive lifter on his vehicle was eyed off as well.

Biosecurity Officer, John, spoke about AFB and the importance of adhering to regulations. For the second year in a row, John has had interference with some of his hives by some unscrupulous person(s). Unfortunately, like many parts of society, there are some dodgy operators in the bee industry as well. Be aware of your own hive security, only purchase from reputable sources etc.

With the COVID-19 rules in place, we all need to remember to bring our own food and drink. There were a couple of peckish people by the end of the day! Don't forget to socially distance, and use the hand sanitiser provided at our meetings as well.

Thank you to all who continue to make our days (and Association) run so well.

Regards,
Allan

Next Meeting -

Date: 11 October 2020

Time: 10 for 10.30am

Address: 925 North Bank Rd -
Raleigh

Contact: Kerry Shearer – Ph: 6655 9250
Al Thomas - Ph: 0428 712 587

President:
Secretary:
Treasurer:
Vice Presidents:
Membership Officer:
Public Officer:
Supply Officer:
Newsletter Editor:
Publicity Officer:

Allan Thomas Ph: 0428 712 587, beekeepingworkshops@gmail.com
Monica Rich Ph: 0419 298 586, email: monicarich00@gmail.com
Merridy Huxley Ph: 0421 690 403, email: mhux3198@gmail.com
Matt Connell; Don Wood
Merridy Huxley
Monica Rich
Don Wood Ph: 0418 112 516
Andrea Stafford ca.rainbird@yahoo.com
Vacant

Biosecurity Officer:
Social Media Officer:
Librarian:
Ass.Librarian:

John Carroll
Glenn Locke
Carina Kerr
Elsbeth Haenggi



The Bee Line

Newsletter of the Mid North Coast Amateur Beekeeping Association

AMERICAN FOUL BROOD (AFB) - ADVICE FROM NSW APIARISTS ASSOCIATION

1. Inspect

For more information on how to inspect your hive, see the [Fact sheet \(PDF, 171.47 KB\)](#) or watch a [video](#).

2. Test

You can test for AFB by [preparing a slide \(PDF, 318.08 KB\)](#) and sending it, along with a [submission form PDF, 472.8 KB](#) for diagnosis to:

NSW DPI Laboratory Services

Courier address:

Woodbridge Road,
Menangle NSW 2568

Postal address:

Private Bag 4008, Narellan NSW 2567

Phone: 1800 675 623

Email: laboratory.services@dpi.nsw.gov.au

You can also use a field diagnostic AFB test kit. These are available at [beekeeping suppliers](#).

3. Notify

It is a legislative requirement to report AFB to NSW DPI within one working day.

- Ring the Exotic Plant Pest Hotline 1800 084 881, or
- [Submit an online form](#)
- NOTE: If you have received a positive AFB result from an AFB slide submitted to the NSW DPI laboratory for testing, the result is automatically documented by the NSW DPI lab and fulfils your notification obligation. There is no need to notify DPI following the sample submission.

4. Act

If you have AFB, you must:

- kill the bees in the affected hive, and
- destroy the affected hives by burning, or
- treat the hives by hot wax dip, or
- irradiate the affected hives and frames.

For more information about irradiation, refer to the [Steritech website](#).

<https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/animals-and-livestock/bees/pests-diseases/afb-awareness-month>



The Bee Line

Newsletter of the Mid North Coast Amateur Beekeeping Association

STOP PRESS: HELP!

1. A lovely woman in Bellingen called Cat has discovered a wild hive in an internal wall of a recently purchased house, and is asking for assistance in its removal. She is concerned for the welfare of the bees, and is aware parts of the house will need to be deconstructed to access and remove them safely. Cat can be contacted on Ph: 0411 057 323 if you can help.
2. Whoever has the Club's honey extractor, could they return it, or contact a member of the Executive to provide its current location. Thanks!
3. Pat Lynch has sold his bees, so has a number of items for sale, including
 - Electric knife
 - Steam knife
 - Two sets of uncapping trays
 - WSP boxes and frames
 - Full depth frames
 - Foundation wax.

Pat will be at the next meeting, but in the meantime can be contacted on Ph: 6655 1853 after dark.

HAPPY SNAPS FROM AUGUST 2020 MEETING



1. Matt's solar wax melter 2. An enthralled audience 3. Honey room envy 4. Looking good



The Bee Line

Newsletter of the Mid North Coast Amateur Beekeeping Association

FRANK'S HIVE HINTS No 9

GOLDEN bees and queens are pretty to look at but that doesn't mean they are the best.

WELL FERTILISED QUEENS will produce more bees for longer to replace old workers. This will keep a hive strong. Mating areas should be stocked with well bred drones.

QUIET BEES are easier to work with. Beekeeping need not involve being chased and stung by angry bees.

WELL FED BEES live longer. Good nutrition in early development is important. Research shows that larvae fed inadequate pollen results in workers that are poor foragers and waggle dancers.

PRODUCTIVE BEES are those that have received proper nutrition. They will live longer so will gather more nectar and pollen in their lifetime. The beekeeper will harvest more honey.

HYGIENIC BEES detect and remove dead and diseased brood before it becomes infectious, preventing the spread of disease in the hive. It makes the colony more resistant to chalkbrood and AFB.

LONG TONGUED BEES, like the Caucasian race, can access nectar in some deep flowers where others cannot reach.

If your bees have most of these qualities you are a lucky beekeeper. Enjoy your hobby!

LOVE THOSE BEES.

(from archive of Frank's Hive Hints by the late Frank Karabaic)

BEEES IN THE NEWS

Recent medical research has now linked honey bee venom to the destruction of breast cancer cells. What's more, it's Australian research! The study's aim was to investigate the anti-cancer properties of honeybee venom on different types of breast cancer cells. Results revealed that the venom rapidly destroyed three types of breast cancer cells, including triple-negative breast cancer, which currently has limited treatment options. Results have been published in the prestigious international journal NJP *Nature Precision Oncology*. To read an overview of the findings, head to the Harry Perkins Institute of Medical Research website: www.perkins.org.au



The Bee Line

Newsletter of the Mid North Coast Amateur Beekeeping Association

TOTAL BEEKEEPERS FIELD DAY – SATURDAY 17/10/2020 FROM 9AM

This event will be live streamed with a host of International and local speakers and topics throughout the day.

Hear Claire Densley and Martin Hamm from Buckfast Abbey discuss the amazing world of pheromone communication or tune in for a fascinating two-part talk about worker bees from the University of Florida's Jamie Ellis.

The day will feature a wide variety of talks, with something for everyone. Topics include native bees, queen bee genetics, the pros and cons of hive types, pests & diseases, nutrition and much more. Register your interest in joining the day at the Eventbrite link below. You can also follow the event on Facebook and Tocal's social media channels

<https://www.facebook.com/TocalBees>

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/tocal-virtual-beekeeping-field-day-tickets-117359233627?aff=ebdssbeac>



Department of Primary Industries



OCTOBER 17 2020
Attendance is Free

Event Information

The Tocal Beekeepers' Field Day is coming up on Saturday 17th October 2020. The event will be virtual only.

About this Event

This year's event will be virtually streamed through Facebook and YouTube!

The Tocal Beekeepers' Field Day has been running for 41 years. This year it is run in collaboration between the NSW Department of Primary Industries, Tocal College, Amateur Beekeepers Association of NSW, Hunter Valley Amateur Beekeepers Association, Hunter Valley Branch of the NSW Apiarists Association and When Bee Foundation.

Starting from 9 am, there will be a full program of informative presentations.

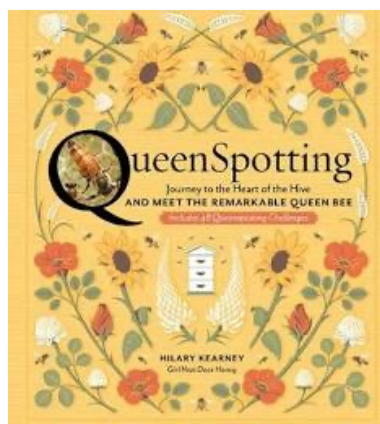


The Bee Line

Newsletter of the Mid North Coast Amateur Beekeeping Association

MNCABA Library Buzz (A treasure chest of resources available for you to borrow)

“Queen Spotting” by Hilary Kearney:



A beautifully illustrated book full of information about bees. It is entertaining and educational. There are Queen spotting challenges to tune your eyes into finding your Queen. Lots of detail that many other books don't cover, and it doesn't labour on. I really enjoyed this book. (Reviewed by your Librarian - Carina Kerr)

Borrow it now!

BEE SUPPLIES AND SERVICES

Foundation and Apithor

Don Woods has our club's supplies of Wax Foundation and Apithor SHB traps. Please contact him on 0418 112 516 or by email: rabbitttrap2873@yahoo.com . The price of foundation is \$2.50 per sheet. Apithor traps are \$6.50.

Other Services and supplies

- Michael Worraker - Queen bees for sale: the current breeding stock available is Joe Horner Italian Breeder, Caucasian Breeder, artificially inseminated (AI) Cordovan & AI Italian Breeder queens. Queen cells & nucs will also be available. A new supply of Agrisea bee feed has also arrived. Ph: 0408 293 031
- Ross Wood - Mated queens and nucs (Grafton). Ph: 0421 817 710
- Steve Fowler - All manner of beekeeping equipment for sale. Steve and Janet usually turn up at meetings with a ute full of gear. To pre-order call 0418 412 621
- Glenn Locke - Mt Coramba Apiculture – One day beekeeping workshops and Flow-hive mentoring: www.oraravalleyhoney.com.au Ph: 0459 066 297
- Steve Hayes - Little Star Bees - Nucs and hives plus native bee courses. Ph (02) 6564 8737
- Coffs Beekeeping Supplies – Ph: 0447 308 906. Judith Webster & Serge Golovin specialise in polystyrene beehives, and provide a wide range of hive wear, beekeeping tools & equipment www.coffsbeekeepingsupplies.com.au Ph: 0447 308 906 Email: coffsbeekeepingsupplies@gmail.com
- Di McQueen and Scott Richardson - Queens, nucs, hives and beekeeping equipment – www.honeybeehives.com.au Ph: 0411 097 275



The Bee Line

Newsletter of the Mid North Coast Amateur Beekeeping Association

NEXT MEETING

- **Date:** Sunday 11 October 2020
- **Time:** 10 for 10.30am
- **Hosts:** Kerry & Gary Shearer Ph: 0437 608 008
- **Location:** 925 North Bank Rd, Raleigh NSW
- **Cost:** \$5 as a donation to the Club, which entitles you entry in the Lucky Draw of useful bee-related products

- **What to bring:**

Due to COVID-19 restrictions we are unable to have our normal shared, buffet-style morning tea and lunch. Therefore you need to bring your own food and drinks. Also consider bringing:

- Something to sit on
- Your protective bee gear if you want to be involved in the hive inspection (loan gear available for new members)
- A hat
- Your name badge
- Extra \$\$ should you wish to purchase from Steve Fowler (see information above - pre-ordering is preferable to guarantee availability) or other members who may have items to sell on the day
- A smile & sense of humour

COVID-19 SAFETY MEASURES FOR OUR MEETINGS (current 26/09/20)

- If you feel unwell, and/or have symptoms, get tested and stay at home.
- When you arrive, use the hand sanitiser provided – often – and for a period of 20 seconds each time. Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth. If your hands are visibly soiled you need to wash with soap and water.
- Record your name and contact details in the book provided, using your own pen (just like you do when visiting cafes, restaurants, pubs). This is to allow for contact tracing if needed, and is vitally important to safeguard our friends, family and healthcare workers.
- Practice social distancing: you must stay 1.5m away from others. Feel free to wear a mask – this is particularly important if participating in the hive inspections, as social distancing in that situation is not possible. Single use masks are available for purchase on the day @ \$1 each.

Monitor your emails for changes or cancellations if conditions alter.

FUTURE MEETINGS

- **November** – 08/11/20
- **December** – Xmas Party – date and venue to be confirmed

