

VOL. 105 - NO 9 SEPTEMBER 2024

ISSN 0046-0294

AUSTRALIAN

BEE JOURNAL



The VAA in the 1960s ... page 12



KELVIN TRADING PTY LTD

Manufacturer, Wholesaler and Retailer

Monthly specials

Price includes GST



Queen Excluder (Galvanized Steel)

8-frame: \$10 ea.,

10-frame: \$11 ea.

Minimum ordering quantity (MOQ): 100 pieces



Plastic Foundation (Food-grade Plastic)

FD: \$1 ea., WSP: \$0.90 ea.,

Manley: \$0.90 ea., Ideal: \$0.80 ea.

MOQ: 1000 pieces



Emlock (SPCC Steel)

\$5 ea., MOQ: 200 pieces



Hive Frame (New Zealand Radiata Pine)

FD, WSP, Manley, Ideal

Flatpack or assembled

Fit for wax or plastic foundations



Hive Super (New Zealand Radiata Pine)

FD, WSP, Manley, Ideal

Flatpack or assembled and painted

Visit our website!



31/830-850 Princes Highway, Springvale, VIC 3171



ktpl10@yahoo.com.au



PH: (03) 8555 4754, Mobile: 0405123098

AUSTRALIAN BEE JOURNAL

Published since 1918 by the VAA - founded in 1892 -

SEPTEMBER 2024 - Volume 105 - No 9

Registration No. A8347

VAA President's Report	5
AHBIC Varroa Update / Photo Competition	6
AHBIC Newsletter Extracts	8
VAA Resources Report	9
NEAA Beekeeping Field Day	10
Bee Bits	10/11/16/20/22/23/25
Bendigo Branch VAA Report	11
The VAA In The 1960s	12
Melbourne Section VAA Report	13
Five Generations In Stuart Mill	16
Dummy Boards & Honey Looseners	18
US Beekeeper News	19
Apis Florea In Europe	20
AgriFutures News	21
New Book: Heredity In Honey Bees	23
Bendigo Branch Field Day	24/28-30
Honey Bee Research	25
VAA Emails To Members	26
Manuka Honey For Breast Cancer Treatments	31
Contacts	32/33
Classifieds / Members / Index of Advertisers	34

Cover photo: Lindsay Callaway

**Deadline for copy for the October journal is
10pm on Tuesday 1st of October 2024.**

The Australian Bee Journal seeks to publish contributions dealing with all aspects of beekeeping.
Statements expressed by contributors do not necessarily reflect the views of the VAA Inc or the editor.
Editor: Annette Engstrom

Contact the Editor for ads, photos, classifieds and article information

The Editor, Australian Bee Journal, P.O. Box 42 Newstead, VIC. 3462 Email: abjeditors@yahoo.com

Australian Bee Journal Advertising rates

	12 mth	6 Mth	3 Mth	1 Mth
Color Full page	\$3,000.00	\$1,980.00	\$1,185.00	\$450.00
1/2 page	\$2,100.00	\$1,170.00	\$660.00	\$280.00
1/4 page	\$1,188.00	\$690.00	\$405.00	\$200.00
B/Card	\$960.00	\$600.00	\$360.00	\$150.00
B&W Full page	\$2,280.00	\$1,500.00	\$900.00	\$380.00
1/2 page	\$1,560.00	\$930.00	\$555.00	\$210.00
1/4 page	\$960.00	\$600.00	\$390.00	\$150.00
B/Card	\$600.00	\$480.00	\$300.00	\$120.00

2-page ad - \$4800.00 - available for 12 month contract only

The Victorian Apiarists' Association Inc. (VAA)



The VAA was founded in 1892 and is the peak body for beekeeping in Victoria.

The Association advocates to federal, state, and local governments to protect and improve Victoria's honey resources and to ensure beekeepers' interests are safeguarded and promoted. We work to secure effective legislation and encourage scientific investigation and research in all aspects of beekeeping.

Our achievements include:

- Introducing the Victorian Apiary Code of Practice allowing bees to be kept in urban areas
- Contributing to the new Apiculture on Public Lands Policy through our involvement with the Buzz Committee
- Working with Plant Health Australia which contributed to the development of the Australian Biosecurity Code of Practice.

The VAA advocates for the beekeeping industry on behalf of all beekeepers in Victoria.

Management

The VAA Board meets a minimum of six times a year.

Members of the
2024 - 2025 Board

Administration Officer

Tino Corsetti

VAA

PO Box 721

Woodend, Victoria, 3442

Mob: 0498 461 460

vaa@vicbeekeepers.com.au

tino.corsetti@vicbeekeepers.com.au

President

John van Weeghel

0419 542 479

john.vanweeghel@bigpond.com

Vice President:

Lindsay Callaway
(Bendigo Branch representative)

0429 857 835

warral@iinet.net.au

Vice President

Dr. Andrew Wootton

0481 392 798

andrew.wootton@gmail.com

Other members:

Judy Leggett

0423 464 800

aandjleggett@bigpond.com

Phil McPherson

0428 621 455

mchoney1@optusnet.com.au

Ken Gell

0428 506 752

gellshoneymaryborough@gmail.com

Angela Enbom

0400 261 233

angela_enbom@yahoo.com

Rob Kerr

0421 078 387

robkerr62@gmail.com

Ben Moore

0400 728 796

moore_honey@hotmail.com

VAA sub-committees & conveners

Contact by email is preferred

Biosecurity

Ken Gell

Finance & Insurance

Ken Gell

Education

Don Whitehead

don@walkaboutshoney.com.au

Melbourne Show/fund raising

Judy Leggett

Constitution & Legal

Lindsay Callaway

Conference

Lindsay Callaway

Clubs & Affiliates

Phillip McPherson

Aust. Bee Journal/Website

John van Weeghel

Resources

Ken Gell

Services

John van Weeghel

Commercial beekeeping

Phil McPherson

Recreational beekeeping

John van Weeghel

All beekeepers and interested groups are welcome to join the VAA.

Membership benefits include:

- The VAA's monthly magazine *Australian Bee Journal* (ABJ) including one free classified ad per year
- Access to the members' only section of the VAA website vicbeekeepers.com.au
- Discounts for beekeeping services and products, including insurance
- Borrowing rights to the extensive VAA library
- Voting rights at VAA regional group meetings and the annual VAA state conference
- Opportunity to participate in and contribute to VAA sub-committees
- Opportunity to meet and share ideas with other beekeepers at local group meetings, field days, shows and conferences
- Opportunity to contribute to advocacy to government and development of policy on beekeeping

Membership Rates

Up to 100 hives (1 vote): \$93

101- 500 hives (2 votes): \$249

501-1000 hives (3 votes): \$400

1000+ hives (4 votes): \$550

Partner membership is \$20 less in each category and includes all rights except receipt of journal

How to join

Join online at

www.vicbeekeepers.com.au

or email

vaa@vicbeekeepers.com.au

to request a membership form.



www.vicbeekeepers.com.au

President's Report

It is difficult to do a report without mentioning varroa as things continue to evolve. Most members will be aware that varroa was found at the almonds, south of Mildura. This event has not led to any changes for beekeepers in Victoria, but it has brought us one step closer to living with varroa. Thanks to the dedicated AgVic Apiary staff this incursion was detected and controlled with a minimum risk of further spread. Having said this, varroa will continue to spread, and I encourage beekeepers to rely on information provided by AgVic and / or the VAA when this happens. It was disappointing to see misinformation spread on social media leading to unnecessary stress.

More Varroa Management Workshops continue to be made available across Victoria. So far attendance has been mixed, which is unfortunate as the number of workshops is limited. The workshops are free to attend, and lunch is provided. The cost of the workshops is paid for by the 26 parties that have paid for the varroa eradication program, our industry contributing approximately \$1.1mil of the total cost of \$100mil.

Our association will again be part of the Royal Melbourne Show starting on 26 September. Judy Leggett and her team have been busy ordering stock and making up a roster. The show is one of the events that brings together members and volunteers and creates a real team spirit, enjoyed by all. I believe that a total of ap-

proximately 50 to 60 volunteers are involved in this fantastic promotion of beekeeping, hive products and the Association. Thank you all for your contribution.

The beekeeping world has lost another well known and respected member. Barry McCahon has supplied foundation and beekeeping equipment for as long as most of us can remember. He continued with his business even though he was in his nineties. Members would have seen the McCahon's Bee Material ad in the ABJ, which was only cancelled last month. Our sincere condolences to Barry's family.

To finish, I call on members to contribute to the ABJ, not with money but by writing an article. Your first extraction of honey, your experience of shifting hives to almonds or any other interesting topic. Please share your experience, it can be a short article, and a photo will add to your story. We have many members that are beginner beekeepers and would be grateful for your efforts. Equally we welcome reports of special events of our affiliated groups. It will help promote your group and become an integral part of the VAA family.

Spring is here and the new season beekeeping activities have started, enjoy.

John van Weeghel
President

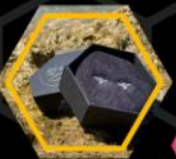
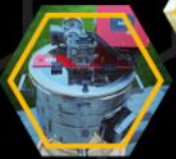
The deadline for the October Bee Journal is 10pm on Tuesday 1st of October

LYSON  **BEEKEEPING SUPPLIES**

OVER 500 PRODUCTS

PREMIUM EUROPEAN EQUIPMENT

AUSSIE OWNED



BEEKEEPING NOTEBOOK

WE'RE HERE FOR EVERY BEEKEEPER

WWW.LYSONAU.COM.AU – 1800 955 579 – INFO@LYSONAU.COM.AU

AHBIC Industry Update 62

15th August 2024

Varroa Mite Detection Confirmed in Victoria

Varroa mites have been confirmed within Victoria. As a result of routine strip and mat surveillance by the Agriculture Victoria Apiary Compliance team, a single hive has returned a positive sticky mat with a very low level of mites.

The location of the infected premise is at a property in Nangiloc near Mildura. Agriculture Victoria have begun to work directly with the affected, and surrounding apiarists involved and will provide ongoing support and updates over the coming days.

This extremely low-level detection should not cause alarm among beekeepers in the area.

Beekeepers in the area should continue routine surveillance for the presence of mites in their hives and only act if above threshold levels. It is unlikely this low-level detection will result in a large spreading event in the Mildura area.

Agriculture Victoria have reaffirmed to industry that they will not euthanise any hives nor try to eradicate varroa from the state.

Varroa information for Victorian Beekeepers

Victorian registered beekeepers will be updated through direct emails from Agriculture Victoria and can seek information by visiting Agriculture Victoria website:

[Varroa mite of honey bees | Priority pest insects and mites | Pest insects and mites | Biosecurity | Agriculture Victoria](#)

Varroa Development Officers in Victoria

As part of the Transition to Management Program, Varroa Development Officers (VDO) are already employed and working in Victoria, the main aim of VDO's is to provide hands on beekeeping support directly to beekeeping industry.

Beekeepers in Victoria can reach out for support from VDO's by emailing

Victorian.VDO@agriculture.vic.gov.au

or by calling: 1800 958 485

Looking after yourself and others

Importantly, details of this new detection may im-

pact peoples mental and emotional wellbeing. In times such as this, beekeepers are encouraged to look after themselves and each other.

If at any time you are worried about your mental health or the mental health of a friend or loved one, call Lifeline on 13 11 14 or contact:

- your doctor, local community health centre
- Parentline 13 22 89 or the Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800
- Nurse-On-Call 1300 60 60 24 – for expert health information and advice (24 hours, 7 days)
- Australian Psychological Society Referral Service 1800 333 497

For information about trauma and things you can do to cope with and recover from traumatic events, visit the Better Health Channel:

- Trauma reactions and recovery
- Trauma and families
- Post-traumatic stress

Webinar 4

National Transition to Management 30 July 2024

Another successful online Webinar was hosted by AHBIC and the National T2M Program team on 30 July, delivering detailed presentations from Victoria, South Australia and Queensland apiary teams on interstate requirements followed by an informative number of case studies from the field in NSW by the NSW Extension Coordinator and of course a live Q&A. Jump in and watch the recording if you missed it, there were some great details with some really engaging audience questions.

- Agriculture Victoria – Nikki Jones
- Primary Industries and Regions South Australia – Adrian Harvey
- Biosecurity Queensland – Robert Stephens
- T2M Program NSW Extension Coordinator – Dave Fairhall

Click here to watch the webinar: <https://youtu.be/mGYCjS56UZ0>

National Varroa Mite Coordinator

Bianca Giggins

0402 467 780

Pulling pollinators into focus

The 2024 Pollinator Photography Competition is now open.

Now in its third year, the competition encourages everyone to get out into the backyards, gardens, parks and farms to snap photos of bees and other pollinators in their local environment.

First prize for the open competition is \$1,500 with additional prizes for second, third and People's Choice. The school competition awards both a primary and secondary school winner with a \$500 prize each.

Winners will be chosen by a panel of judges and announced in a webinar as part of Australian Pollinator Week, November 9 - 17. The competition closes Monday 28 October at 5pm AEST.

You can enter [here](#)

From the Wheen Bee Foundation September newsletter



AUSTRALIA'S NO.1 BEEKEEPING LOADER

BEE SMARTER. WORK SMARTER.

Add efficiency, comfort and versatility with a multi-purpose loader from Avant Equipment Pty Ltd

Manufactured in Finland to the highest specifications, these machines are reliable and well designed for access, safety and ease of maintenance. Free call 1800 686 411 to organise your obligation free demo!



- ✓ Ability to load the truck from one side using telescopic boom
- ✓ Huge lifting capacity up to 1500kg
- ✓ Park sideways across truck
- ✓ Optional air-conditioned cabin
- ✓ Self Levelling Boom
- ✓ Prompt delivery Australia wide

- ✓ All terrain 4wd with outstanding stability
- ✓ Backed by a Family business for over 25 years
- ✓ Save time and man power
- ✓ Easy to access and operate
- ✓ Over 200 attachments
- ✓ Easy finance options available



1800 686 411 | sales@avantequipment.com | www.avantequipment.com

AHBIC Newsletter Extracts

Can Probiotics Help Defend Honeybees from Common Diseases? Project Update August 2024

By Dr Georgina Binns, Research Officer,
Eco-Immunology Lab, Macquarie University

Researchers are assessing the effects of probiotic treatments on honeybees to increase brood survival against common brood diseases.

Honeybees have been victims of their success as pollinators with pathogens and parasites colonising hives. Exposure to climate change, pesticides and pollutants has weakened bees' health. Now, more than ever before, crop-pollinating honeybees need extra support to survive common pathogens. Our team at Macquarie University have been working on designing economical and naturally chemical-free probiotics to help boost disease-resistance in honeybees, particularly targeting brood pathogens such as chalkbrood and American and European foulbrood. These prevalent diseases infect colonies and reduce brood survival throughout the year, reducing bee numbers and negatively affecting pollination services.

The Honeybee Probiotics team, which includes myself, Post-doctoral Fellow Dr Darsh Rathnayake, PhD candidate Casey Forster, and is led by Associate Professor Fleur Ponton, have recently completed a set of preliminary trials, where we grafted hatched larvae from our campus hives and hand-raise them in a specialised 'insectary' laboratory to adulthood.

We have focused on two probiotic treatments. The first is a set of honeybee gut microbes that we isolated from bee guts. These 'native' species of bacteria include members from the core-gut microbes found in all bees throughout the year, such as several *Lactobacillus* species, *Bifidobacterium asteroides*, *Snodgrassella alvi* and *Gillamella apicola*. We predicted that reinforcing the natural gut bacteria would create a thriving beneficial community within the brood gut, and therefore aid in safeguarding the gut from potential infections as well as supporting overall health.

The second treatment contains the same bacteria as the first, but with the addition of several 'non-native' species of bacteria that are commonly found in commercial probiotics for both humans and animals, such

as *Lactobacillus plantarum* and *L. rhamnosus*. These species are found to grow quickly and prolifically. They may exclude and prevent other potentially harming species of bacteria and fungi (such as those that cause chalkbrood and foulbrood disease) from taking hold of the individual bee. As the larvae will shed all of their gut microbes prior to pupation, we felt that including these non-native species could give a short-term benefit to the individual, without negatively affecting the adult bee it will eventually become. Further, it gives an opportunity to test the efficiency of probiotic bacteria that are already on the market.

Our preliminary trials are showing that the non-native probiotic mix decreases brood to adulthood survival. The native mix, however, promoted brood survival and adult emergence. The next step of our experiments is to inoculate bee larvae with pathogens and test the effect of the mixes on their resistance. We predict that non-native probiotic bacteria will exclude pathogens from the gut, however we do not know how it will affect bee survival.

How many times should the treatment be given to be efficient is another important question. We investigated the frequency of probiotic treatments on bee survival. Previous studies have fed probiotics to larvae for five days consecutively during rearing. However, we believe that a treatment that can easily be used by professional beekeepers should be delivered in one or two doses. We ran two trials, where one set of brood were fed the probiotics only once, and the other set were treated five times. Interestingly, this preliminary trial found that dosing the brood with probiotic treatments five times significantly increased mortality. This suggests that repeated doses of beneficial bacteria can become detrimental to the individual over time.

Our next step is to test the efficacy of the probiotic treatments against the three bacterial and fungal pathogens we have stored in our laboratory, which we hope to start when the weather warms up. Keep up to date with our research by visiting our website: <https://sites.google.com/view/aussiepollinatorhealth/home>

Funding Acknowledgement; *Probiotics in honey bees to fight bacterial and fungal diseases* (PH21003) is funded through Frontiers developed by Hort Innovation, with co-investments from Macquarie University and contributions from the Australian Government.

AHBIC CEO report August 2024

July and August marks the start of the new season with many beekeepers very busy with bees being delivered to pollination jobs across the country. Few reports of problems have come to AHBIC leading us to think that beekeepers have been able to navigate the regulations to get to where they need to go. Generally, beekeepers have reported good quality pollination hives coming out of winter in the eastern states.

Unfortunately, varroa has been found in Victoria with a very low detection in a single hive being found in North Western Victoria. It is unclear at this stage what this detection means for the current movement restrictions, but we will keep a close eye on any developments.

Varroa Transition to Management Program

The third and last of the train the trainer events is being held in Brisbane. This will upskill the remaining contract trainers and enable training to be delivered in the remaining jurisdictions.

VDO's are reporting high levels of reinfestations in the Sydney-Newcastle region with high colony losses reported where monitoring isn't conducted regularly. The change in recommendation from NSW DPIRD for monitoring from 16 weeks to at least every 4 weeks where varroa is present is as a result of the field reports.

Danny LeFeuvre

VAA Resources Report

The Resources Committee met on 17/8/24 after the CVAA conference in Maryborough, to discuss many issues. I would like to thank all of those who stayed and participated in the discussions.

The representatives from each region gave a report to the meeting and there was one thing in common that all were concerned about - the continuous amount of burning of our resources. How can we change the mind set of management to understand that while trying to protect one asset, it is actually harming the environment and destroying our resources and ability to keep healthy bees for our food production areas? We must start to challenge management on this part of our industry as we go forward, in an effort to save our resources.

Another topic which was quite hot, was the issue of identification of apiary owners on bee sites. I think it is fairly clear cut as if you are following the Biosecurity code, which is set in stone - it clearly states that all apiary yards when occupied must be signed with owners name and contact details. This is not about secrecy/privacy but good management, because if you do have your details there in public view in an emergency you can be contacted quickly and may save your assets and not end up with ashes. If you have nothing to hide and are proud of your product you have nothing to lose either.

Also, and this topic always comes up, how does one get into the public land system? There are no more public resources being made and cannot be, one needs

to keep on looking for the vacant site register that does not exist! This is one topic that the APLEG must get happening, however saying this, there are not too many vacant sites around. The only other way one can expand is just like all farming sectors, you must be willing to buy into the game these days, wait for a retired beekeeper to sell their business - the sites are allowed to be transferred with the sale of that business, but remember the bee sites themselves are not a saleable item.

We also discussed the possibility of paying a part time CEO for resource issues to be followed up in a professional manner, as we all are time poor and busy with running our businesses. There are many issues that should be followed up on to really have our case heard and gain better results for our industry.

This brings us to another issue - the APLEG and its relevance now. It seems the departmental authorities do not seem to be as dedicated to our issues as before, so our representatives will be bringing this issue up at the next meeting in October, and see if we can get this committee on track again.

Issues like more national parks in the making, joint management with the indigenous people, burning, clearing of bee sites and signage and field events for educating managers, just some of the topics that have been ongoing.

This is just a quick report from the chairperson of the resources committee.

Ken Gell



create a buzz in your backyard

Backyard & Sideline Specialists
Premium Apiary Supplies & Training
Beekeepers Servicing Beekeepers Australia wide



EXTRACTORS bee suits **smokers** HONEY PRESSES **ADVICE** nutrition
frames **TRAINING** books **EDUCATION** SMOKER FUEL frame holders
LYSON WAX FOUNDATION **COMPLETE HIVES** beeswax **QUEEN CAGES**
excluders uncapping knives **QUEEN BREEDING** honey sieves honey gates **NUCS** VEILS
BEGINNER KITS hive tools **KIDS SUITS** WIRE **mead** honey tubs



www.becsbeehive.com.au

NEAA Beekeeping Field Day

SWANPOOL - SUNDAY 6 OCTOBER

By John Kennedy

This annual beekeeping event, which I judge as one of the best practical learning and education events after a number of years of attendance, is on again on Sunday October 6.

I refer of course to the Swanpool Field Day held at the Swanpool Theatre and adjacent compound, which is located about midway between Mansfield and Benalla on the Midland Highway.

It runs from an 8.30am start to around a 4pm close and it's always a great education and learning experience for all levels of beekeepers, and it is run by the North Eastern Apiarists' Association Inc.

The program this year has the underlying theme of **"Are you ready to keep your hives alive with varroa?"**

The keynote presentation will be delivered by Karla Williams from AgVic on Honey Bee Pests, Diseases

and Varroa, followed by sessions on spring management, supplementary feeding with plenty of examples to succeed, hive inspections for small hive beetle and wax moth, and also including monitoring and managing varroa.

As always, the day is strong on the practical side.

This year major Howlong NSW commercial beekeeper Mick Leahy will again provide ten pallet loads of hives for the working demonstrations.

The event is run by an experienced team of commercial and very practical sideline beekeepers as tutors, who give the day a real hands on effect.

The day is fully catered for including morning and afternoon teas and a picnic lunch, another of the highlights.

Attendances as always are limited in numbers, and you must book.

The charge is \$95 for the day and bookings can be made at www.eventbrite.com.au/e/beekeeping-field-day-in-swanpool-vic-2024-registration-986444691627

ABC News - Rural News 23 August 2024

Selling and buying native stingless bee honey is now legal

First Nations Australians have prized native stingless bee honey for food and medicine for tens of thousands of years, and now consumers can legally buy it.

Until late last month, beekeepers who sold the rare native honey, which retails for up to \$500 per kilogram, were operating in a grey area and did not have the law on their side.

Read the full story [here](#)



Prices include GST:

1-10	\$33.50 each
11-49	\$31.00 each
50-100	\$29.00 each
OVER 100 (in total)	\$28.50 each
200 and over—Discounts apply	

Queen Rearing Manager: Rose Taylor - 0409 667 908

Package bees available October to March...

Terms: Payment prior to delivery/pick-up

FOR ORDERS OR ENQUIRIES CONTACT
ROSE and NICOLE TAYLOR / ROWENA

1800 024 432 FREE CALL from anywhere in Australia
(Call from anywhere in Australia for the price of a local call)

IF UNANSWERED: (02) 6368 3788

Or write: 58 Marshalls Lane, Blayney, NSW 2799
Email: aqbe@bigpond.com / Fax: 02 6368 3799

**Specialising in
Stainless Steel Extracting
Plants and Equipment
for the Honey Industry.**



751 Edwards rd, Marong Vic 3515

Ph Matt 0409 421 549 mjibee.eng@bigpond.com

VAA Bendigo Branch Report

The 2024 Bendigo Branch Field Day is fast approaching and will be held on the 13th October at the Harcourt Recreation Reserve.

A wide range of Apiary suppliers will be onsite, so get your must have and wish list compiled.

Queens this year will be limited, first in best dressed, contact Max Maunder for orders (see page 24).

At the August Bendigo Branch meeting held on the first Wednesday of the month at Lakeside Hotel (meals from 6pm, meeting starts at 7pm), our Guest Speaker Peta Dawe presented on the 'Rhythms of the Apiary'.

Peta provided an overview of the planning and tasks required during the various beekeeping seasons for beekeepers managing their hives successfully.

The September guest speaker, Lindsay Callaway, will be presenting the 'Good, the Bad, and the Ugly'.

The National Varroa Mite Management Program and Bendigo Branch VAA is hosting a Recreational Bee-

keepers Varroa training workshop from 9am to 3pm on Saturday 23rd November at the Bendigo District RSL.

Morning tea and lunch are provided and booking online is required for catering <https://ticketing.humanitix.com/tours/varroa-management-training/>. The workshop is free and will cover: understanding Varroa mite and its impacts; display a preserved Varroa specimen; the importance of monitoring and treatment thresholds; Integrated pest management and Varroa; Chemical treatment options, synthetic and organic; brood location, frame rotation and management; best practice record keeping; and booklet containing the workshop material.

Locally the cold snap has reduced the bees flying just as drones were making their test flights. No doubt swarming will be underway early September.

All the best in beekeeping,

Jamie Trimby

Yahoo News

Michael Dahlstrom, Environment Editor, 16th August 2024

Outback road forced to close after incredible eruption from underground burrows

During nine months of the year, you'd never know there were thousands of giant bees hiding underground.

"You wouldn't even see the burrows, because they seal them," Antoinette Roe told Yahoo News Australia.

When Roe was growing up the Thudgarri and Wadjarri woman knew nothing of Dawson's Burrowing Bees — called Mungurragurra in the local language. When she'd ride her horse past their burrows she just assumed they were honey bees.

Read the full story [here](#)



Phone (03) 9587 5950

Email redpaths@redpaths.com.au

Web www.redpaths.com.au

"Supplying beekeepers for over 50 years"

Redpath Quality "Weed Process" Comb Foundation
Alliance (NZ) Beekeepers Woodware
Lega (Italy) Extractors, Honey Tanks and Pumps
Pierce (USA) Electric and Steam Uncapping Knives
Beeco (AUS) Stainless Steel Smokers
Ecrotek (NZ) Full Bee Suits

And many more quality apiary items also available in
our shop and online.



Opening hours

Monday to Friday:

9am - 5pm

Saturday morning:

(August to March)

9am - 12pm

**193 COMO PARADE EAST,
PARKDALE 3195**

The VAA In 1960

By John Kennedy

A greatly under-utilised asset of the VAA is the Library which is contained within the Melbourne Section, with editions also available on loan to the Bendigo Branch.

When I attend the Melbourne Section monthly meetings (held generally on the last Thursday evening of the month from 7.15 pm at the Church Hall at 1 The Avenue in Surrey Hills) I always browse the titles on offer to borrow.

There are apparently over 720 volumes in the Library stock, plus a goodly number of videos and related materials on all aspects of beekeeping.

In short, if you have a question about bees, you will find an answer here. Although it needs to be noted that the collection is now somewhat dated. It's unfortunate that the relative rush of new books on important topics like varroa have not been secured although the Library has a modest net cash balance in reserve.

The Library is well run by voluntary librarian, Mr Bruce Diggles, and from time to time I borrow a title – and pay the month's borrowing fee of 50 cents.

At a recent Melbourne Section meeting I noticed bound edition of all the ABJ journals of 1960.

Thinking there might be lots of interest and information herein I borrowed this title.

So here are my key findings of what were the big beekeeping interests from 1960, or 65 years ago.

Drawn from the advertisements and editorial content - Queen suppliers were almost all based in the NSW northern rivers or Queensland districts, and you could buy a gold autumn queen for seven and sixpence.

It was interesting to note the regular correspondence from the founding members of succeeding dynasties of family bee and honey enterprises. Mr W Cane, Mr A

Gell and Mr M Edmonds were regularly cited raising related issues of the day. The 1960s was when people were always referred to by their initials - and never by their first names.

The main VAA Topics were Honey Week promotion and the Royal Melbourne Show, while a debate was running over the need for a marketing board.

There was a host of products advertised - whatever happened to "Cardwell Three Ply Foundation", the "Washington Wejclips", the "McKenze Hive Fastener" and "King's Stretch Resistant Foundation" or "Bolton Hive Bodies" and the "Reade Hive Fastener"?

Murray Valley Apiaries in Albury was an advertiser each month seeking Honey for Export with invitations to post samples and quantity on offer.

There were useful reports in each edition of the 1960's on district conditions as to what was budding or in flower.

There are notes on Life Memberships awarded, the odd obituary, plus multiple small advertisements in each edition of hives for sale or wanted, and unique beekeeping aids sought by buyers, even bee sites available or to purchase,

Another regular offer was honey tins for sale from six to 60 pounds in size.

The 1960 volume of all the ABJs is a great reminder as to how communication was done by beekeepers of the day by post or telephone, and equally what a great industry organisation the VAA has been over its many decades of service to beekeepers.



Lindsay Callaway

FACTORY DIRECT
Made in Australia by Danbar Plastics

BEEPLAS FOUNDATION SHEETS

Plastic Beehive Components

- Made in Australia for Australian conditions
- Top quality food grade high impact polystyrene
- Excellent tensile strength and impact resistance
- Natural cell size
- Mitred bottom corners
- 6mm engagement tongue



Buy NOW!! IN-STORE or ONLINE www.danbar.com.au

Contact:
Danbar Plastics
sales@danbar.com.au
Ph: (03) 5382 4740



VAA Melbourne Section Report

In this Issue: It's Show Time at the Melbourne Royal. Beekeeping courses are coming up soon. Varroa Workshop registrations? Swarm entertainment was August. The VDO role is September. MS at the Woodend National Insect Expo.

It's the busy time, isn't it? Did you know that if you want something done, you give it to a busy person? Well, your task is to think about how you will change your daily practices while you are inspecting your bees this Spring and to start doing these things. Practice makes perfect? No. **Perfect Practice makes Perfect.**

Monthly meetings

The MS August meeting was entertained by Kevin Sermon as he took us through his swarm catching, cut-out, and trap out work. As usual, the people in Kevin's stories were often as tricky as the bees. Kevin had lots of videos and photos of his work and with up to 20 swarms on a Spring day, he has plenty of material.

The September meeting will welcome a Victorian Varroa Development Officer to tell us how they will work with us when varroa arrives.

Varroa preparation

There is knowledge we must acquire and there are technical skills that we must learn if we want to successfully prepare for living with varroa in our hives.

The Varroa Workshops organised by the national varroa response group will give us the same base of knowledge (if we all attend, that is) but we will not become the experts we need to be unless we also train ourselves. After the Winter break, that first hive opening is something just a little less familiar than that last Autumn hive opening, but the muscle memory kicks in and off we go.

Reading, watching videos, attending workshops, practising and chatting with other beekeepers will give us many ideas and a feel of how we could act, but it will take some real repeating experiences to be effective in our varroa management.

Two Varroa Workshops in Melbourne: Commercial beekeepers on Friday 11th October and Recreational beekeepers on 12th October. See the emails from "Humanitix" which all registered beekeepers should be receiving.

Reliability through standards

Standard knowledge, tools and techniques will greatly enhance our collective ability to live with varroa. If you fail, someone else will get your mites! And you will get the mites from someone else's failure.

As community of beekeepers, we will need to work within the guidelines and use the approved chemicals. This may not mean that everything is wonderful or that there are not better options to come. However, if beekeepers experiment or make their own decisions without some form of community agreement, then risks to that beekeeper and other beekeepers are likely far higher.

Beekeeper collaboration

Saying "we must collaborate" rates low on the useful scale until we have the times and places for this networking. Your beekeeping mates probably have similar views about varroa and the local pub sounds good. The local beekeeping club will have a broader range of

views and will be organised to develop varroa knowledge as well as provide support for each of us. Other groups may be needed for large, small or specialist apiarists.

If the impact of varroa is severe, I expect these groups will be needed by individual apiarists for encouragement and assistance as much as debates on which chemical should be on the shelf and who should put it there.

Collective action

There may be something that is considered highly advantageous or potentially disastrous in the fight against varroa by the whole industry. The ability of one apiarist or one group or one part of the industry to make something happen may be limited. A whole of industry move may be required to influence or even fund some activity that may be needed.

Coming events

The **Melbourne Royal Show** will need support for products, logistics, stall volunteers and lots of other jobs I expect, from Thursday 26/9/24 to Sunday 6/10/24.

The **National Insect Expo** is on at Woodend from Thursday 4th to Sunday 6th October 2024. The Melbourne Section and the Woodend Bee Friendly Society have combined to run a stall to show off the European honeybees, raise awareness about varroa and sell honey.

A **beginner beekeeping course** is on in October and the **queen rearing course** is on in November. See the Event page on the VAA website.

Rob Kerr, For the VAA Melbourne Section



Specialising in
**Caucasian
Queen Bees**

Marked Queens	-----	\$40 ea
1 - 9	-----	\$35 ea
10 - 49	-----	\$30 ea
50 - 199	-----	\$27 ea
200 plus per season	-----	Discounts Apply
Queen Cells	-----	\$8 - collect only

Breeder Queens - \$825

Naturally mated on a remote island.

Post & Handling \$15 per dispatch under 50 qty.

Prices include GST

Valid September 2019 to March 2020

Terms: Payment 10 days prior to dispatch.

For orders contact:

John Covey

Email: sales@coveybees.com.au

Ph: 0427 046 966

PO Box 72 Jimboomba QLD 4280

Clayton Plastics

Servicing the
honey industry
for over 40
years.



Jars & Squeezes



250gr & 500gr
Square Jars



250gr & 500gr
Amber Jars



300ml
Twist & Squeeze



500gr
Honey Comb
Squeeze



500gr
Upside Down
Squeeze



**Clayton
Plastics**



Honey Pails



Non Tamper Proof Pails
500gr 1kg 1.5kg 3kg 5kg
(500gr available in CLEAR ONLY)



1 kg 1.5kg 2.2L 5L Pails



10L 15L 20L Pails



Bee Frames



Wood Frame Full Depth
Assembled with Wire



Wood Frame Full Depth
with Plastic Foundation
(not waxed)



Plastic Frame
Full Depth



Beehives



10 Frame
Plastic Hive



8 Frame Painted Wooden
Assembled Hive



**Time
& Cost
Efficient**

**8 Frame
Wooden
Hive**

*customize your
own way*

**LIMITED
TIME OFFER**

call **(03) 8401 4248**



Pre-Drilled
Holes



Free Nails

**Lid
Hive Box
Bottom
Board**

**SOLD
SEPARATELY**

OR

**Full
Hives**

www.claytonplastics.com.au

5 Lydia Court Epping, VIC 3076
sales@claytonplastics.com.au

Tel: (03) 8401 4248
Fax: (03) 8401 4946



Five Generations In Stuart Mill

By John Kennedy

A few years ago at an auction room in Melbourne I was interested to buy an antique honey container that carried the title of "Honey Stuart Mill".

I was interested to bid to \$50 intending to add it to my collection of honey antiques and histories, but the bidding soared to \$80, and I missed out.

Stuart Mill, effectively due north of Ballarat and about 25 kilometres south of St Arnaud, is a small village on the Sunraysia Highway.

It sits right in the middle of the St Arnaud Range National Park.

This is a 13,500 hectare area judged as the largest Box/Ironbark forest in Australia. And if that's not key beekeeping country I am a poor judge.

Right now, in Spring it has a glowing understory of natives and wildflowers, including wattles.

Later in the season there is a diverse range of Ironbarks, some Red Gums along drainage lines, and virtually all the key Box Eucalypts in flower,

So, when in Stuart Mill last month, I was interested to explore any remaining beekeepers.

That is how I came across H C Harvey and Company, a fifth generation beekeeping business founded in 1906, and I met Rhonda Harvey, who continues the family beekeeping business along with her son Hayden.

Rhonda told me she is the chief extractor and pack-



Rhonda Harvey of H C Harvey & Company in Stuart Mill operates a roadside stall on the Sunraysia Highway at Stuart Mill selling the local honey

ager and also maintains a roadside honey stall at 3916 Sunraysia Highway at the northern end of the village.

She referred me to son Hayden for questions on beekeeping and Stuart Mill and the history of the family business and company. (Rhonda unfortunately lost her husband Trevor, a noted beekeeper in March 2022.

The Harvey's are a fifth generation operation, while another branch of the family, who trade as Harvey Honey from Stawell, have their hives in the Grampians and also do almond pollination around Robinvale. They apparently run about 600 hives.

Hayden Harvey told me he is only a part time beekeeper these days, running up to 150 hives on local farmland in the district. He has a fulltime job plus other interests so he says the family hives are a weekend pursuit.

The family business originally owned a number of prominent bee licences in the local

Stuart Mill area, but these are either no longer active or were sold off to other apiarists.

Hayden says his late father also had hives on red gum up in the Murray area.

But even though the HC Harvey & Company honey business is fairly low key today the five generation succession still continues.

Hayden noted that the last three seasons locally have been 'fairly ordinary' but the outlook for the current season is much more promising.

ABC News - Landline

30 August 2024

Bees 'starving' for pollen as native flowers fail to bloom

...The native bushland on Western Australia's central coast would normally be bursting with springtime blooms but after four years of increasingly dry winters, only a handful of plants are starting to bud..

... "The prediction is that this year might be kind of okay with flowering [but] thereafter is going to be an absolute collapse.

..."That's what the beekeepers are predicting."

Read the full story [here](#)

And on the other side of the world

Yahoo News

25th August 2024

Bees starving' in disastrous year for French honey

Beekeepers across France say it has been a disastrous year for honey, with bees starving to death and production plummeting by up to 80 percent.

Mickael Isambert, a beekeeper in Saint-Ours-les-Roches in central France, lost 70 percent of his honey and had to feed his colonies sugar to help them survive after a cold, rainy spring.

"It has been a catastrophic year," said Isambert, 44, who looks after 450 hives.

Read the full story [here](#)



GOLDFIELD

Honey Australia Pty Ltd

Quality Queen Bees

From the grafting of the larvae to the caging of the queens, Goldfields queens are bred for **quality** through our strict control protocol.

- Gentle
- Productive
- Pest & disease tolerant
- Strong spring build up

All queens are raised in 5 frame nucs and are caught at a minimum of 21 days. Along with natural conditions, cell raisers and nucs are continuously fed with syrup and Ultrabee patties. All mating yards are stocked with **high quality** drone mother colonies to flood the area with drones.

In the face of Varroa, quality queens will be one of the main drivers for **successful** beekeeping.

Pricing:

1 – 10 \$65.00 + GST

11 - 49 \$45 + GST

50+ \$40 + GST

Express post included



Orders or Enquiries

PLEASE EMAIL QUEENBEES@GOLDFIELDSHONEY.COM OR
CALL GARTH ON 0450 369 982.

Dummy Boards & Honey Looseners

By John Kennedy

DO DUMMY BOARDS HAVE A ROLE?

Dummy boards don't appear to play a role in local beekeeping, but elsewhere in the world where seasonal conditions are difficult, especially in the UK and Europe where winter conditions are much more challenging, they are an important asset.

Leading UK bee goods retailer EH Thorne provides a good account of their role in its latest email update.

Thorne's are offering a range of what it calls the EB Insulated Dummy Boards which it retails for 18 pounds sterling apiece.

They note that the EB reflects the role of Enid Brown, a renowned Scottish beekeeper and honey judge and a promoter of the idea, noting also that they "are a simple way to naturally change the shape of the brood nest and add substantial insulation". Enid Brown uses them to manage her Smith hives in Scotland, and Thorne's have reproduced an article that she has written on their use.

Therein she notes that they are equally of value in Smith, National and other hive sizes in use in the UK, because the use of two dummy boards reduces the number of brood frames in the hive by up to two.

Brown notes that "this means the brood bodies are lighter to handle and the nest shape is similar to the way that bees elongate nest sizes in the wild.

"Hives can be overwintered on a single brood body with two insulated dummy boards adding valuable natural insulation.

Ms Brown continues with an explanation of her winter management, noting that she keeps "all my colonies

on double brood throughout the year with seven frames and two dummy boards (in a Smith size hive), and how she applies syrup or a commercial product, adding that "they help to delay swarming".

The product information as well as Ms Brown's application and endorsement of dummy boards can be found on the E H Thorne website at www.thorne.co.uk.

THORNE'S HONEY LOOSENER

Some honeys are hard to extract because they are thixotropic.

In the UK this occurs with lots of types of heather honey, and locally it's especially encountered with tea tree honey. In New Zealand Manuka honeys are also difficult.

Thorne's has come up with a product solution it has just released. It's called a Honey Loosener, and is a manual device with spring mounted plastic needles that punch into the honey cells on foundation.

It effectively loosens the honey without damaging the comb.

The unit is housed in a stainless steel assembly with all plastic components being food grade plastic, and has four rows each with 49 pins across a width of 22.7 centimetres, so each unit has 194 needles.

The extraction is completed normally in a tangential extractor.

Thorne's say that that the loosener can also be used as an uncapper for all types of honey.

Reference to the Thorne's website (www.thorne.co.uk) shows that their new product, described as the Heather Honey Loosener, has a retail price of 100 pounds sterling.



US Beekeeper News

By John Kennedy

KIRK WEBSTER UPDATE

US beekeeper Kirk Webster of Vermont, described as a legend and regarded as probably the best no-treatment and natural beekeeper in the USA, is delivering what is termed a crash course on Raising Queens at the Natural Beekeeping Conference in Houston, Missouri on October 26.

The pre-publicity for the event notes that Webster, a full-time natural beekeeper, single-handedly produces around 40,000 pounds of honey (or 60 x 55 gallon drums) each year from his apiary, along with raising 1500 queens.

Webster's Apiary has been treatment free for 20 years with 300 honey producing hives and many hundreds of smaller colonies.

His queens have high levels of natural immunity to the varroa mite, and his bees have never needed medication.

In his one man operation he makes information on his beekeeping and queen rearing methods available to anyone. He says raising queens is not complicated, but the devil is in the details.

"A small misstep may mean the difference between success and failure.

"Also, many procedures can be done in different ways with the pros and cons of each option, enabling

you to make the best choice without trying them all" Webster says.

The course costs \$US99, and its objective is to help beekeepers become self-sufficient and to succeed in raising superior queens with the objective of never having to buy them again.

A watch will be kept for the notes attached to Webster's course.

NICK HOEFLY UPDATE

New York City beekeeper Nick Hoefly, who runs the progressive Astor Apiaries business, has gained the Master Beekeeper accreditation, courtesy of courses provided by Cornell University.

Nick runs the only bricks and mortar honey store in the City and has about 60 hives in operation sited at prominent City buildings and parks.

He was recently featured on CBS News where he indicated he was engaged in wide ranging public education and training courses about honey, bees and beekeeping.

He said the USA has around 300 types of mono floral honeys.

At Astor Apiaries (www.astorapiaries.com) Nick offers regular newsletter updates on his beekeeping, honey recipes, and related email information on his beekeeping in the big city,



TECHNOLOGY LEADERS IN CTI YEARS OF TESTING ROBUST, SAFE, GUARANTEED



ULTIMATE TYRE PRESSURE MANAGEMENT

CENTRAL TYRE INFLATION

HEAD 10 Holmes Road Morwell,
OFFICE: Victoria, Australia 3840

OPEN: Monday to Friday 8:30am – 5:00pm

PHONE: +61 (03) 5127 6128

EMAIL: sales@aircti.com



PERFORMANCE

- ✓ Greatly reduce load vibration & improves driver comfort
- ✓ Greatly improve traction in all terrains to extend seasons
- ✓ Safer braking & handling in all conditions with less suspension wear
- ✓ Good for driver health & keeping schedules

MONEY

- ✓ Save bee stock during transport & also equipment damage
- ✓ Savings money as an asset for taxation. Use free air!
- ✓ Extend vehicle life & maintenance cost are reduced
- ✓ Save on field breakdowns, expensive down time & tyre wear



Lindsay Callaway
Warral Maldon Honey

TESTIMONIAL



"The biggest time saver! It got me out of trouble so many times, I could be going up a hill and I start to lose traction and my truck starts bogging down. I dump my air through the controller on the dash, the tyres bite in, it gets me over the hill and I just pump them back up on the bitumen. They are right with what they say - better braking, better tyre wear and it is a much easier ride on my poor old aching back" Steve Grahame – Outback Trucker



Apis Florea Found In Europe

By John Kennedy

According to a report in The Guardian, a colony of *Apis Florea*, or the dwarf honey bee, has been found in Malta.

The bee is a native of Asia and it has raised alarm among local beekeepers and conservationists the report says, who fear “a potentially devastating impact on native bee populations because it is likely to compete for pollen and nectar with native pollinators that are already in decline.

It is also very likely that these bees will be carrying multiple diseases to which European honey bees may have little resistance, so the article says.

The Red Dwarf species has slowly expanded its territory from Asia to the Middle East and North East Africa, but it has never before been reported in Europe.

According to an English entomologist, Francis Ratnieks, who is also Emeritus Professor of Apiculture at

the University of Sussex, “If it’s in Malta, this is the first occurrence of a honey bee that is not the western hive bee -*Apis Mellifera*.

The colony in Malta comprising 2000 bees on discovery and identification, has been destroyed, despite the fact that a group of bees may already have left the hive to start a new colony.

Researchers believe that Malta’s warm climate and that of other southern European countries favour the survival of this invasive species.

It has also been found in Israel in recent times.

With multiple Mediterranean Islands nearby, this is seen as an expansion route to nearby continental lands with threats to biodiversity that are, as yet, not understood.

The location of detection is close to Malta’s major cargo hub suggesting that the bees may have arrived on a cargo ship.

The Scientist

Some Honey Bee Swarms Generate Electrical Charges Stronger Than Storms

Small charges carried by individual insects can add up, a study finds, with larger swarms generating substantial electrical fields.

At a field station near the University of Bristol in the UK, experimental ecologist Ellard Hunting and his colleagues noticed an unexpected jump in the atmospheric electrical charge on a clear day, *New Scientist* reports. As it turns out, the jolt came from a nearby swarm of western honey bees (*Apis mellifera*), the team reports today (October 24, 2022) in *iScience*.

Read the full story [here](#)

Quality hiveware direct from the manufacturer

Whirrakee Woodward are one of Australia's largest manufacturers of quality timber products for beekeeping.

Specialising in bee boxes, we manufacture a full range of hiveware including boxes, lids, bottoms, nuc boxes, clearer boards, division boards, assembled frames and supply wax and plastic foundation and hardware to suit. For quality beekeeping products, call us today.

CONTACT US

38 Drive In Court, Maryborough, Vic. 3465

Landline: 03 5461 4661

Peter: 0418 535 300 Ali: 0498 102 600

enquiries@whirrakeewoodware.com

STOCKISTS OF



3rd September 2024

Empowering emerging beekeepers

The honey bee industry is buzzing with potential as the AgriFutures Honey Bee & Pollination Program Future Leaders Bursary introduces a new wave of talented young professionals poised to drive innovation and sustainability.

Valued at up to \$2,100, The Future Leaders Bursary is a unique opportunity for young beekeepers, scientists, as aspiring future leaders to attend their respective state beekeeping association conferences, presenting an invaluable chance to advance their careers in beekeeping.

This year's pilot program, running in NSW, QLD and WA, aims to expand nationwide by 2025, fostering the development of a skilled and passionate next generation dedicated to the thriving honey bee industry.

AgriFutures Australia Senior Manager Levied & Emerging Industries – Honey Bee & Pollination, Amanda Olthof, explained that the pilot program aligns with AgriFutures' goal of improving industry capability.

"This priority aims to undertake capacity building through professional development of researchers, beekeepers and future industry leaders," she said. "The bursary provides the opportunity for our emerging leaders in the bee keeping and research space to network, serving as a gateway to establish a solid foundation in the honey bee industry."

Ms. Olthof added; "there was a strong cohort of recipients for this pilot and we are sure that the contacts and opportunities will assist them in their honey bee careers into the future."

Meet the 2024 bursary recipients

Joel Shave (NSW)

Joel Shave from NSW began his journey with bees as a hobbyist around 2019, starting with just a few hives. Through connections with commercial beekeepers and a growing interest, Joel expanded his operation, now managing a significant number of hives alongside his wife, Natalie, at Waggle & Round in the Riverina.

His motivation for applying for the bursary stemmed from wanting to contribute to and connect within the industry, particularly amid discussions about challenges like varroa.

"I wanted to connect with others in the industry, learn more and find new ways to contribute. The NSW state beekeeping association conference was a great opportunity for this," said Joel.

Joel's commitment to the beekeeping industry is evident in his proactive approach to learning and networking, positioning himself to make a positive long-term contribution within the industry.

"We're still just growing the business so in the next 5 years we're looking to establish and expand ourselves further," he said. "The industry's in a state of flux at the moment so we're playing the long game."

(Continued on page 22)

DENMAR APIARIES

P.O. Box 99, Wondai, Queensland, 4606

Phone: (07) 4168 6005

Mobile: 0448 690 064

International Ph: +61 7 4168 6005

Email: ausbee4@hotmail.com



ISOLATED MATED BREEDERS \$600.00 EACH

**QUEEN BEES
ITALIAN**

UNTESTED

1 — 10	\$32.00 each
11 — 49	\$28.00 each
50 +	\$24.00 each

Prices as from 1/9/2020

**BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS
AVAILABLE UPON
REQUEST**

Terms 7 days - Late Payments - add \$4 Per Queen

AgriFutures, cont'd

(Continued from page 21)

Joel appreciates the positive impact the bursary will have on his growing business, especially one that prioritises sustainable practices and quality honey production, aspects that underscore the vital role of bees in the ecosystem and benefit the industry in the long term.

Luke Young (QLD)

Luke Young's passion for the honey bee industry began at home, learning beekeeping from his father and grandfather who managed some recreational hives. Encouraged by his chemistry teacher, who was also a beekeeper, Luke applied for the bursary to gain more insight into the commercial side of the industry and expand the family business.

"I've always wanted to grow the family business, so I was excited to learn about the commercial side of the industry," explained Luke. "The State Beekeeping Conference gave me the opportunity to meet several industry leaders and secure work experience with some commercial beekeepers."

Luke says the bursary has significantly impacted his career trajectory. As a result of attending the State Beekeeping Association Conference, he has joined the Queensland Beekeepers' Association (QBA) and started donating to the Australian Honey Bee Industry Council (AHBIC).

"The bursary was super useful in helping me get great advice to grow my family's business. Hopefully the opportunities I've been given should help us advance in the industry and explore new ways to improve our beekeeping."

With new industry connections and work experience opportunities, Luke is now better equipped to contribute to and grow his family's beekeeping business.

Theoriq Esterhuysen (WA)

Theoriq Esterhuysen, born in South Africa and living in Perth since the age of seven, began beekeep-

ing with his dad and gradually expanded their business to 50 hives. Nearly three years ago, he started working with commercial beekeepers to broaden his knowledge and skill set.

At the 2024 International Apitherapy Forum, held in WA he was impressed by the latest research on bees and bee products, particularly in apitherapy, which promises an exciting future for the bee industry.

"I was blown away with the latest research people were doing on bees and bee products," said Theoriq. "The future of apitherapy and bee products is very exciting and presents a great future for our bee industry."

Having met many international guests, successful beekeepers, and key industry figures, Theoriq believes the bursary will help grow his network of leading beekeepers and inspire him to promote beekeeping to the younger generation.

"I would love to promote beekeeping within the younger generation to help them carry the baton. I see myself educating people in understanding how amazing bees and bee products are and how it can be applied in multiple uses," he said.

Theoriq's dedication and enthusiasm for beekeeping, bolstered by the bursary and his expanding network, position him to make a significant impact on the future of the bee industry and inspire the next generation of beekeepers.

Ms Olthof congratulated the 2024 recipients, highlighting that capacity building in the industry and development of future leaders is of high importance to the honey bee and pollination program.

"We hope that the bursary has helped to fire their passion for the industry and we look forward to watching them as their careers progress," she said.

The success of the 2024 pilot program will be assessed and the AgriFutures Honey Bee and Pollination Advisory Panel will review its outcomes to decide on future support.

4/7/2024

To save bees, scientists say focus on habitat first, then pesticides

A recent study by researchers from China, the UK and the Netherlands indicates habitat loss may impact the diversity of bees more than increased pesticide exposure.

Worldwide, hedgerows and wild grass in field margins which previously served as semi-natural habitats are being swallowed up into agricultural production. While scientists have suggested both pesticide use and habitat loss are detrimental to pollinators, their relative impacts have been unclear.

A recent study published in the *Journal of Applied Ecology* offers insight. Its findings indicate semi-natural habitats play a more important role than pesticide use in rice fields, in efforts to stem the decline in pollinator diversity.

The researchers studied honeybees (*Apis mellifera*) and a mason bee (*Osmia excavata*) across 20 rice fields within the Yangtze River Valley in China.

Dr Yi Zou, an associate professor at Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University (XJTLU), China, who co-led the team, says: "Non-crop habitats are important for pollinators in agricultural fields as these provide essential resources and nesting sites.

"Although the impact of pesticides cannot be ignored in efforts to reduce the decline in pollinator diversity, our results suggest it would be better to concentrate on conservation of semi-natural habitat than on reduction of pesticide use in rice fields."

Read the full article [here](#)

New Book

By John Kennedy

HEREDITY IN HONEY BEES

A weighty new book, a paperback of 134 pages, is just released by prolific bee book publisher Northern Bee Books in the UK (www.northernbeebooks.co.uk)

It is titled *Heredity in Honey Bees* and subtitled *and in Honey Bee Colonies*.

The author of the book is Bernard Sauvager, an experienced beekeeper who is also a University lecturer in mathematics, who has learned the techniques of artificial insemination and genetics with scientific rigour.

He is also actively involved with SAIVHB, a beekeeper's union in provincial France.

The publisher's introduction notes that in order to understand how the characteristic of an individual are transmitted and expressed we start with a review of the



basic principles of genetics and an introduction to epigenetics.

"How are the characteristics of the 'superorganism' (the colony) transmitted to another colony.

"The important role of polyandry is explored with a discussion of the implications for controlled or instrumental mating.

"Finally, for those breeders wishing to integrate or 'fix' desirable characteristics in a given line through the use of instrumental insemination, specific inbreeding selection characteristics are described".

This book, with a retail price of 34 pounds sterling (plus \$A conversion and prompt postal delivery cost to a local address), seems very relative to all the efforts that are either launched or in train to breed lines of bees that counter all the challenges of the varroa mite and related productivity and temperament issues.

AgriFutures Australia: [2025 Rural Women's Award](#) for women with a project, business or program that contributes to enhancing the prosperity of remote, rural and regional industries and communities (applications close Wednesday, 9 October 2024)

AgriFutures Australia: [2025 Rural Women's Acceleration Grant](#) for women with an idea, cause or vision that is not yet realised or launched (i.e. any pre-existing businesses, programs or projects which are already up and running are ineligible) that could contribute to enhancing the prosperity of remote, rural and regional industries and communities (applications close Wednesday, 9 October 2024)

For further information go to the [website](#)



Let Steritech give your hives a treat

For over 30 years, Steritech has proudly provided Gamma Irradiation treatment to eliminate a wide variety of problems in bee equipment

Gamma Irradiation easily penetrates all areas of the equipment being treated.

As a chemical free process, it eliminates the need for any post-treatment quarantine periods which allows equipment to be used straight away.

Contact your closest Steritech office to find out more about our service



American Foulbrood



European Foulbrood



Small hive beetle



Many Other Insects and Diseases



STERITECH

Protecting what matters

QUEENSLAND
180-186 Potassium St
Narangba
QLD 4504
07 3385 8400
steriqld@steritech.com.au

NEW SOUTH WALES
5-7 Widemere Rd
Wetherill Park
NSW 2164
02 8785 4400
sterinsw@steritech.com.au

VICTORIA
160 South Gippsland Hwy
Dandenong
VIC 3164
03 8726 5566
sterivic@steritech.com.au

www.steritech.com.au



Mated Queen Bees

Bendigo Branch VAA will have them
available to collect from the BBVAA Field
Day Oct 13th

Order Now with Max
Ph 03 54467911
maunderjmcv@bigpond.com



DALRYMPLE VIEW

APIARY SUPPLIES

**MANUFACTURERS AND
SUPPLIERS OF ALL YOUR
BEEKEEPING NEEDS**

- **FRAMES**
- **SUPERS**
- **CLEARER BOARDS**
- **EXCLUDERS
AND MORE**

**ALL
AUSTRALIAN
MADE USING
QUALITY
AUSTRALIAN
HOOP PINE**



**FAMILY OWNED
AND OPERATED**

*Locally owned and
manufactured in our
factory on the Southern Darling Downs, QLD*

Stockist of most other beekeeping supplies

65 Forde Street Allora QLD 4362 • 0448 717 051
www.dalrympleview.com.au • sales@dalrympleview.com.au

Honey Bee Research

March 25, 2024

By Sara Zaske, Washington State University News & Media Relations

Honey bees at risk for colony collapse from longer, warmer fall seasons

PULLMAN, Wash. — The famous work ethic of honey bees might spell disaster for these busy crop pollinators as the climate warms, new research indicates.

Flying shortens the lives of bees, and worker honey bees will fly to find flowers whenever the weather is right, regardless of how much honey is already in the hive. Using climate and bee population models, researchers found that increasingly long autumns with good flying weather for bees raises the likelihood of colony collapse in the spring.

The study, published in the journal *Scientific Reports*, focused on the Pacific Northwest but holds implications for hives across the U.S. The researchers also modeled a promising mitigation: putting colonies into indoor cold storage, so honey bees will cluster in their hive before too many workers wear out.

“This is a case where a small amount of warming, even in the near future, will make a big impact on honey bees,” said lead author Kirti Rajagopalan, a Washington State University climate researcher. “It’s not like this is something that can be expected 80 years from now. It is a more immediate impact that needs to be planned for.”

For this study, researchers ran simulations through a honey bee population dynamics model using climate projections for 2050 and the end of the century at 2100. They found that honey bee colonies that spend the winter outside in many areas of the Pacific Northwest would likely experience spring colony collapses in both the near - and long-term scenarios. This also occurred under a simulation where climate change continued as it is progressing now and one where greenhouse gas emissions were reduced in the near future.

Worker honey bees will forage for food whenever temperatures rise above about 50 degrees Fahrenheit. When it gets colder, they cluster in the hive, huddling with other bees, eating honey reserves and shivering, which helps keep the bees warm. In the spring, the adult worker bees start flying again. That means they also start dying. If too many older worker bees die before their replacements emerge ready to forage, the whole colony can collapse. Scientists have estimated

this happens when there are fewer than 5,000 to 9,000 adult bees in the hive.

This study found that colonies wintering outside in colder areas like Omak in the far north of Washington state might still do all right under climate change. But for honey bee colonies in many other places, like Richland, Washington near the border of Oregon, staying outside in the winter would mean the spring hive population would plummet to fewer than 9,000 adults by 2050 and less than 5,000 by the end of the century.

The authors note that the simulations just looked at seasonal factors like temperature, wind and the amount of daylight, making them fairly conservative models.

“Our simulations are showing that even if there is no nutritional stress, no pathogens, no pesticides — just the conditions in fall and winter are enough to compromise the age structure of a colony. So when the hive comes out of winter, the bees are dying faster than they’re being born,” said co-author Gloria DeGrandi-Hoffman, a research leader at the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Carl Hayden Bee Research Center.

The researchers also simulated a potential mitigation, placing honey bee hive boxes in cold storage so the bees start to cluster earlier and save workers. For instance, in the Richland scenarios, by the end of the century, having bees in cold storage from October to April would boost the spring hive population to over 15,000 compared to around 5,000 to 8,000 if they were kept outside.

A relatively new practice, cold storage is gaining popularity among commercial beekeepers to help manage bee health and for the logistics involved in moving hives to California to pollinate almond trees in February, an event that draws more than two million hives from across the country.

“A lot of beekeepers are already practicing this management technique of storing bees indoors because it has a lot of immediate potential to help in a number of ways,” said co-author Brandon Hopkins, a WSU entomologist. “These findings demonstrate that there are additional benefits to this practice for the survival of colonies in a changing climate.” This research received support from the Washington Department of Agriculture’s Specialty Crop Block Grant.

[Honey bees at risk for colony collapse from longer, warmer fall seasons | WSU Insider | Washington State University](#)

5/8/2024

Honey added to yogurt supports probiotic cultures for digestive health

URBANA, Ill. — If you enjoy a bowl of plain yogurt in the morning, adding a spoonful of honey is a delicious way to sweeten your favorite breakfast food. It also supports the probiotic cultures in the popular fermented dairy product, according to two new studies from the University of Illinois College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences.

“We were interested in the culinary pairing of yogurt and honey, which is common in the Mediterranean diet, and how it impacts the gastrointestinal microbiome,” said Hannah Holscher, Associate Professor in the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition.

“Our findings showed that pairing honey with yogurt supported the survival of the yogurt’s probiotic bacteria in the gut, so the lab study results did translate to real-world application in humans,” Holscher stated.

Read the full story [here](#)

VAA Emails to Members for August

VAA Education & Events | Spring 2024

Here are some upcoming education offerings and beekeeping events:

Royal Melbourne Show

Thursday 26 September - Sunday 6 October

The Show is a highlight of the spring beekeeping calendar. We look forward to seeing you at our booth.

Interested in volunteering?

Email us at vaa@vicbeekeepers.com.au

Introduction to Beekeeping Course

3, 10, 17, 20 October

Three weekly online sessions followed by an in-person workshop. Gain the skills and knowledge for happy, healthy and productive bees, Spaces still available. [Enrol through](#) VAA website.

Queen Rearing Workshop

Learn the fundamentals of queen breeding to take your beekeeping to the next level. Limited space still available. [Enrol through](#) VAA website.

National Insect Expo | Woodend, Victoria

4 - 6 October

The VAA will be hosting an information booth at the National Insect Expo this year. The event is Australia's largest insect exhibition and includes entomologists, insect researchers, breeders, educators and specialist retailers. Over 100 exhibitors will attend from across Australia and New Zealand. The VAA will be supported in this event by volunteers from the [Woodend Bee Friendly Society](#), one of the VAA's regional affiliated bee clubs.

Tickets to the event are available [here](#).

NOTE: Avoid queues by booking on-line. Admission tickets will be available on entry and capacity limits will apply (EFTPOS will be available)

BUFFALO SPORTS STADIUM.

1-29 Forest Street, Woodend

10:00 Am to 5:00 Pm Each Day.

Varroa Transition to Management Plan News and Updates

Varroa Training

Additional dates have been added to the varroa management training workshops for Victoria. Two dates have been posted for Melbourne. A session for commercial beekeepers is planned for Friday 11th October and the session for recreational beekeepers is scheduled for Saturday 12th October. The sessions will be held at the Matthew Flinders Hotel, 667 Warrigal Rd., Chadstone, Victoria, 3148.

There will also be a session on Sat 23rd Nov 2024, from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm at the Bendigo District RSL, Havilah Rd., Long Gully

You can register for these workshops [here](#).

National Pollination Industry Coordinator Appointed

The National Varroa Mite Management Program has appointed Rebecca (Beck) Sloan to the role of National Pollination Industry Coordinator.

The role will see Beck liaise with pollination-dependent industries across the country gathering data to assist growers and pollinators manage resources moving forward. Information and data collected over the next year will also help develop long-term strategies to support business continuity to be maintained and pollination industries to continue to grow post Varroa spread.

If you represent, or are involved in, a pollination-dependent industry and would like to discuss how the National Varroa Mite Management Program can work with you, contact Beck at rebecca.sloan@dpi.nsw.gov.au.

VAA Subcommittees | Education & Recreational

We are pleased to share some exciting news from the VAA's Education and Recreational Subcommittees. DEECA Livestock Biosecurity Education Grant: Earlier this year, the VAA Education subcommittee applied to a DEECA program to fund a VAA project that would allow our Association to develop and share more education resources to our members. We were informed recently that our application was successful and the subcommittee has started planning the projects and deliverables outlined in the grant application. This includes expanding our suite of video education offerings through the [VAA's YouTube channel](#). Stay tuned for more updates in the coming weeks!

VAA Recreational Conference - Save the Date! After receiving very positive feedback on the March 2024 Recreational Beekeeping Conference, the VAA has decided to offer another recreational conference next year on Saturday, 15 March. The conference will be held at the same venue in [Cairnlea](#), Victoria in Melbourne's northwest. In September the Recreational subcommittee will begin active planning of next year's conference.

If you are interested in participating on either of these VAA subcommittees, please contact us at vaa@vicbeekeepers.com.au.

Here are two recent podcasts that you might find interesting.

[Audio Abstract Podcast | 30 July 2024](#)

This wide-ranging discussion provides a great overview of bees and beekeeping. The podcast guest is David Tarpy, Professor of Applied Ecology at North Carolina State University. Of particular interest is a discussion about whether honeybees can learn to recognise human faces. The answer? Yes, they can! The podcast is just over 26 minutes in length. The segment on facial recognition and honeybee sight starts at the 7 minute mark.

[Two Bees in a Podcast | 2 July 2024 | Episode 171](#)

This segment focusses on the topic of bee stings. The podcast guest is family physician, Dr. Michael Brown, who is a recreational beekeeper and President of the Missouri State Beekeeper's Association. Dr. Brown discusses the physiology and chemistry of bee stings as well as why beekeepers should pay attention to variations in how their bodies respond to stings.



Lindsay Callaway

**The industry benchmark in beekeeping equipment & stainless steel manufacturing.
Creating the largest Automated Honey Extractors in the world!**



Horizontal Extractors

- 36 to 60 frame 3 bank • 48 to 144 frame 4 bank
- 198 frame 6 bank • Twin Systems
- Automated self loading machines

- Wax Melters – 200 ltr to 750 ltr
- Reducers - 1200 to 1800
- Capping spinner • S/S vane pumps
- Centrifuge • Heat exchange
- Storage tanks • Mixing/heating tanks

***Prestige
Stainless***

1994 Finlay Road (P.O. Box 187) Tongala Victoria 3621
P: +61 3 5859 1492 • F: +61 3 5859 1495
E: info@prestigestainless.com
www.prestigestainless.com.au

43rd



BEEKEEPING FIELD DAY



Sunday
13th October

Entry \$15
\$10 Conc

63 Bingham's Lane Harcourt

9am - 3pm

BENDIGO BRANCH

FIELD DAY

Timetable of Activities

TIME	ACTIVITY
9 .00 am	Gates open
9.30 am	Welcome - official opening
9.45 am	Practical flow hive demonstration
	Varroa - The Good, The Bad, The Ugly
	Beginners area demo 1 Hive location, orientation, hive components & equipment
10.45 am	Open hive demonstration
	Varroa - the way forward
	Beginners area demo 2 - Wiring frames, wax foundation, plastic foundation
11.45 am	Identification of local flora
	VDO presentation
	Beginners Area Demo 3 - Extraction
12.30pm	Lunch / auction
1.00 pm	Open Hive Demonstration
	Alcohol Wash
	Varroa - The Good, The Bad, The Ugly
2.00 pm	Lucky Gate Prize Draw
2.15 pm	Varroa - The way forward
	VDO Presentation
3.30 pm	Close

Open hive demonstrations Flow & Langstroth

BYO protective gear to observe the hive demonstrations

Identifying local flora - Bushwalk

Varroa - how do we prepare?

Guest Speakers

**Alcohol wash & drone uncapping
Demonstrations by Ag Vic**

Industry Trade Stalls- Stock up

- **guest speakers throughout the day**
- **beginners sessions**
- **workshop with wax products**
- **primary school art display**

Auction - Bring along your surplus gear to sell

***All enquiries Peta Dawe
bbvaasecretary@gmail.com***

Manuka Honey For Breast Cancer Treatment

19/8/2024

Preliminary study shows potential of Manuka honey as a nutraceutical for breast cancer

University of California, Los Angeles, Health Sciences investigators found Manuka honey contains compounds that can help reduce tumor growth in preclinical models and is less toxic than more traditional cancer treatments

A new study led by investigators at the UCLA

Health Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center found that Manuka honey could potentially be an alternative, natural option for breast cancer prevention and treatment - particularly for estrogen receptor (ER)-positive breast cancer, the most common subtype of breast cancer that accounts for about 70–80% of all breast cancer cases.

Read the full story [here](#)

Lindsay Callaway



Bee Culture

The Magazine Of American Beekeeping

140 years Experience Today's techniques -- Tomorrow's Ideas

ONLY US\$24 for a digital Subscription

www.BeeCulture.com for details



**AMERICAN
BEE JOURNAL**

The Beekeeper's Companion Since 1861

51 South 2nd St., Hamilton, IL 62341
www.americanbeejournal.com

Helpful practical beekeeping advice and discussion of current beekeeping methods.

*The oldest and largest English-language
beekeeping magazine*

*•Only \$21 U.S. Dollars for
a Digital Subscription*

*•Paper edition \$66 U.S. Dollars
per year—12 big monthly issues*

Australia's Honeybee News

"The Voice of the Beekeeper"
The Journal of the NSW AA Inc.
Published bi-monthly
Annual Subscription
Aust. \$65
Overseas \$100 AUD

For more information contact:
The Editor, PO Box 7425,
SUTTON NSW 2620
Ph: 0427 552 001
honeybeenews@bigpond.com

Contacts

VAA Resources Management Comm.

Chairman: Ken Gell,
Mob: 0428 506 752
gellshoneymaryborough@gmail.com
Secretary:
Angela Enbom
0400 261 233
angela_enbom@yahoo.com

Regional Managers

Central region:
Millie Enbom-Goad
Ph: 0400 083 582
millie_enbomgoad@yahoo.com.au

North East region:

Andrew McCallum
Mob: 0448 577 780
rawhoneyvic@gmail.com

Sunraysia region:

Ron Robinson,
Ph: 03 5024 1068
honeybee711@bigpond.com

Port Phillip region:

Ashley Smith
Mob: 0419 155 857
lakesidehoney@outlook.com

Gippsland region:

Ian Cane, Mob: 0428 516 325
iancane@bigpond.com.au

Western region:

Daryl Hobbs
0427 340 197

Agriculture Victoria:

Agriculture Victoria: Apiary team
Website: [Honey bees | Livestock and animals | Agriculture Victoria](http://Honey%20bees%20|%20Livestock%20and%20animals%20|%20Agriculture%20Victoria)
Website:
www.agriculture.vic.gov.au/livestock-and-animals/honey-bees
To report a suspect exotic please call: Exotic Plant Pest Hotline 1800 084 881
For enquiries and endemic disease notification please use:
Ph: 136 186
Email honeybee.biosecurity@agriculture.vic.gov.au
The Varroa project team can also be contacted at the above email.

For enquiries related to permits and movement restrictions:
Email honeybee.permits@agriculture.vic.gov.au
For beekeeper registration please log onto BeeMAX
www.bees.agriculture.vic.gov.au
or call the Bee Registration Helpline 1800 356 761

Current Apiary Officers

Nikki Jones
Biosecurity Manager Apiary
1 Taylor Street, Epsom,
Victoria, Australia 3551
Mob: 0428 617 071
Email: honeybee.biosecurity@agriculture.vic.gov.au

Karla Williams
Biosecurity Officer Apiary
1 McKoy Street, Wodonga,
Victoria, 3690
Mob: 0417 121 987
Email: honeybee.biosecurity@agriculture.vic.gov.au

Adam Maxwell,
Biosecurity Officer Apiary
475-485 Mickleham Road,
Attwood, Victoria, 3049
Mob: 0428 893 595
Email: honeybee.biosecurity@agriculture.vic.gov.au

Karyn Di Florio
Bee Biosecurity Officer
Email: honeybee.biosecurity@agriculture.vic.gov.au

If you can't reach an Officer and need to talk to someone urgently, please call the Customer Service Centre: Ph: 136 186

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP):

BAIRNSDALE:
Tracey West 03 5152 0422
BALLARAT:
Jennifer Bromley 0448 389 270
BENDIGO:
Melissa Dole 0436 615 569
Melissa.Dole@delwp.vic.gov.au
GEELONG
Linda Laurie 03 5233 5519
HEYWOOD
Jacki Hayward 03 5527 0444

HORSHAM:
Jess Dickerson 0437 913 538
MILDURA:
Dan Cadmore 03 5051 4349
SEYMOUR:
Kathryn Hamono 03 5735 4300
WODONGA:
Lloyd Beaty 02 6043 7936

Other contacts

Australian Honey Bee Industry Council (AHBIC):
CEO: Danny Le Feuvre
Mob: 0402 467 780
AHBIC@Honeybee.org.au
PO Box 42, Jamison Centre,
Macquarie ACT 2614
www.honeybee.org.au

Crop Pollination Association Inc
President: Steve Fuller,
president.cpaa.us@gmail.com
Ph 0488 434 498
Secretary: Janet Clyde
jclyde.cpaa@gmail.com
Ph 0417 494 867

Honey Bee Research & Development committee (HBRDC)
Annie Stoddart
Program Coordinator Research
02 69236918
Annie.stoddart@agrifutures.com.au

VFF State Beekeeping Branch:
Secretary: Gail Rochelmeyer
Mob: 0408 592 091

Collingwood Childrens' Farm Apiary Open 10.30-3.30
2nd & 4th Sunday of month.
collingwoodbees@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/collingwoodbees

The Australian Bee Journal welcomes contributions for inclusion in the journal. Please send your original photos, articles, handy hints, anecdotes, club activities etc to abjeditors@yahoo.com

Contacts

VAA Inc Regional Groups

Bendigo Branch:

Secretary: Peta Dawe
bbvaasecretary@gmail.com
Chair: Jamie Trimby
bbvaachair@gmail.com
Treasurer: Carol Maunder
bbvaatreasurer@gmail.com
General Information Q&A
Meetings - 1st Wed. each month
(except Jan & Dec)
Dinner at 6.00pm (optional)
Meeting at 7.00 pm.
Lakeside Hotel, Bendigo.
Executive Committee Meeting:
3rd Wed month as required.
Venue: As notified.
Please register to attend all
Meetings

Melbourne Section:

Secretary, Rob Kerr
Ph: 0421 078 387
Vaamelbournesection@hotmail.com
www.vicbeekeepers.com.au/Melbourne-Section
Information/ Education Meetings:
from 7:30 pm the last Thursday
of each month except December
Location: Church of Christ,
1 The Avenue, Surry Hills.

Sunraysia Branch:

Naomi Forbes-Wilson
Ph: 0407 243 313
billabonghoney@yahoo.com

VAA Inc. Library Trust

Secretary: Russell Goodman,
Ph 03 9735 3836

Affiliated Organisations

Central Victorian Apiarists' Association Inc (CVAA Inc.):

Millie Enbom-Goad
Ph: 0400 083 582
cvaa_inc@outlook.com

Gippsland Apiarists' Association Inc. (GAA Inc.):

President: Stan Glowacki:
jeeralangapiary@bigpond.com
0413 136 878
Secretary: Neil Barraclough:
neilbarra2@outlook.com
0429 888 706
Treasurer: Sean Paul Smith:
kaledprime@gmail.com
0466 041 199

North Eastern Apiarists' Association Inc. (NEAA Inc.):

Secretary: Moss McCallum
secretary.neaa@gmail.com

"J" Beekeeping Club Inc.

35 Duncan's Lane, Diggers Rest
Meet on the 2nd Wednesday each
month at 7pm

Southside Beekeepers Club:

Secretary: Ted Cottle
Ph: 0428 429 547
ted@southsidebeekeepers.com.au
7.30pm on the 4th Wed each
month at Monterey Secondary
College,
21 Silvertop St, Frankston North

Geelong Beekeepers Club

Pres: Stephen Fridey
Ph: 0401 897 579
info@geelongbeekeepersclub.org.au
Meetings third Friday of the
month at Belmont Masonic
Centre,
25 Regent Street, Belmont

Latrobe Valley

Beekeepers Assoc.

President: Sean-Paul Smith
LatrobeValleyBees@gmail.com
Meets 7-9pm first Tuesday each
month, Old Moe Netball Courts,
99 Savages Rd. Moe
P.O. Box 323 Newborough 3825
Mob: 0466 041 199

Woodend Bee-Friendly Society

An action group of the Macedon
Ranges Sustainability Group
E: wbfbs@mrsq.org.au

South Gippsland Beekeepers

Inc. Secretary: Anna Jones
Mob: 0411 770 062
secretary@sgbeekeepers.org.au
Web: <http://www.southgippslandbeekeepers.org.au/>
Meetings: second Thursday of
the month at St Peters Anglican
Church Hall, Cnr McCartin St. &
Bruce St., Leongatha

Melbourne Beekeepers Club Inc:

Web: melbournebeekeepersclub.org.au
E: secretary@melbournebeekeepersclub.org.au

Northwestern Bee Club Inc.

President: Roger Mitchell
Mob. 0407 427 431
northwesternbeeclub@gmail.com
Web: <https://www.nwbee.club/>

Mornington Peninsula

Beekeepers Association :
P.O. Box 186, Mornington, 3931
Ph: 0401 965 558
E: admin@mpba.org.au
Monthly MPBA Club Meeting -
4th Wednesday of every month
at 7pm Mornington Park Pavilion,
9 Flinders Drive, Mornington

Moonee Valley Beekeepers Club Inc. (MVBC Inc.)

Secretary: Paul Kucera
mvbeekeepersclub@gmail.com
Meets at 7pm every 2nd Tuesday
of the month at Maribyrnong Park
Bowls Club, 195 Holmes Rd,
Moonee Ponds, VIC 3039

WerriBeeks Inc.

President: Carmel Gerdson
Secretary: Helen Morland
Treasurer: Debbie Conway
E: werribeeks@gmail.com



John van Weeghel

Do you have photos of bee or honey related subjects?
The Australian Bee Journal would love some of your photos for
use in the journal and on the VAA website.

Please send to abjeditors@yahoo.com

CLASSIFIEDS

HONEY BUYERS

Archibald's Honey Co.
Spring Rd.
Dingley,
VIC, 3172
Ph: 03 9551 1860
Contact: Stuart Archibald
Email: rosalie@archibaldhoney.com.au

Beechworth Honey Ltd.
38-40 Hammersley Rd.
Corowa,
NSW 2646
Ph: 02 6033 2322
Contact: Steve or
Jodie Goldsworthy

Beeman Honey & Beekeeping Supplies
2/14-16 Tova Dr.
Carrum Downs
Vic 3201
Ph: 0438 7465 01
Contact Moe Jarrad
majarrad@gmail.com
Beemanhoney.com.au

Capilano Honey Ltd
Capilano St.
Maryborough,
VIC 3465
Ph: 07 3712 8224
0419 431 652
Contact: Stephen Covey

Goode's Honey
Lot 1, 75 Bosworth Rd
Bairnsdale,
VIC 3875
Ph: 03 5152 2180
Contact: Terry Goode

Honey Buyers Group
Martin Drake,
Bendigo or
Melbourne
0409 808 332

Redpath's Beekeeping Supplies
193 Como Parade East,
Parkdale,
VIC 3195
Ph: 03 9587 5950
Alan Redpath
redpaths@redpaths.com.au
www.redpaths.com.au

FOR SALE

Business for sale
Jeeralang Apiary Supplies
Koala Drive, Jeeralang Junction
Ph: 03 5122 2641
Servicing Gippsland and
Eastern Victoria

8 & 10 frame tin lids
New & recycled tin
KAS MANUFACTURING
Ph: 03 5449 6680
Mob: 0409 017 311

VAA members are reminded
that they are entitled to one
FREE
6-line classified ad
each year.

NEW MEMBERS

Joanne Daniel
Nicholas Karlin

CONDOLENCES

Sincere condolences to the family of
Barry McCahon
from Daylesford
who passed away on 5/8/2024

The Australian Bee Journal
welcomes contributions and
photos from readers and
members. Please send any
letters, articles or photos to
abjeditors@yahoo.com

Classified ads
\$2.20 per line.

VAA members are reminded
that they are entitled to one
FREE
6-line classified ad each year.
Contact
abjeditors@yahoo.com

Members Notices
(births, deaths etc)
are always free.

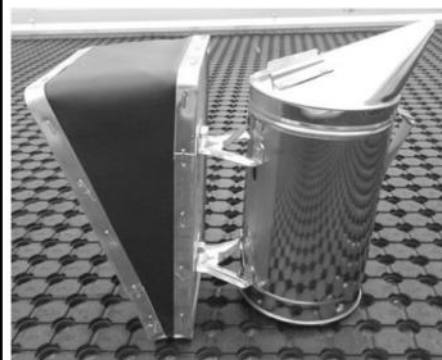
Index of Advertisers

AIR CTI	19
Aust. Queen Bee Exporters	10
Avant Equipment	7
Becs Beehive	9
Beechworth Honey	Inside back
Beeplas Australia	12
Clayton Plastics	14/15
Covey Queens	13
Dalrymple View	24
Denmar Apiaries	21
Goldfield Honey	17
JBee Equipment	10
Kelvin Trading	Inside front
Lyson	5
Prestige Stainless	27
Redpaths Beekeeping Supplies	11
Stafford Engineering - EzyLoader	Back
Steritech	23
Whirrakee Honey	34
Whirrakee Woodware	20

WHIRRAKEE HONEY PTY LTD

Manufacturing quality Australian
Beeco Smokers
White colorbond metal lid covers
Metal escape corners

Ph: 0427 843 383





Australia's Most Satisfied Customers

Thank you to Australia's best beekeepers for supplying your honey to us. Together we can be proud to be voted Australia's #1 Honey.



OVERALL SATISFACTION



TASTE



TEXTURE & CONSISTENCY



RANGE VARIETY



VALUE FOR MONEY



PACKAGING DESIGN

If you're interested in selling your quality Australian honey or beeswax please call Steven Goldsworthy on 0419 559 242 or 02 6033 2322.

beechworthhoney.com.au



EZYLoader

www.ezyloader.com



- Manufactured in Australia
- Six models
- Customised Service

- Unique levelling feature for ease of load handling
- Boom brake system – ease of under-supering and requeening
- Split boom for load positioning anywhere within reach
- Small footprint
- Fully self contained and low maintenance
- Special range of attachment for specific industries
- Manual lifting of beehives removed – saves backs!



M & K STAFFORD ENGINEERING PTY LTD

3/204 Southern Cross Drive, Ballina NSW 2478

B 02 6686 9736 | F 02 6681 6077 | M 0412 426 132