

# BEE NEWS

October 2022

Issue 133

Monthly newsletter of the Sunshine Coast  
BeeKeepers Inc.

[www.sunshinecoastbeekeepersinc.org.au](http://www.sunshinecoastbeekeepersinc.org.au)



Photo by Aaron Burden on Unsplash

## President's Report

Happy October everyone! Our last meeting saw Ian Meyers offer some excellent information about swarm collecting. He was able to share with us what we need to do to be ready for a swarm, including the equipment we should prepare and carry. Ian had some great stories

and lessons learned and we are grateful for the time he took in preparing this presentation.

Our next meeting will see some more members sharing their stories and experiences. If you have anything you think we could hear about we would love you to be a guest speaker. I firmly believe we learn the most from one another and we have so many experts in our club - it would be brilliant to hear from you.

Thank you to our amazing member who have been volunteering their time on a Saturday, it's so great to share some time with you and work together to help our community.

Please send through any ideas you have for our club and our meetings. I value your input and hope we can continue to work together to build our club.

Have a great week everyone, see you on Saturday!

*Katie Livock*

## NEXT MEETING

Saturday, 29 October at the Club House,  
43 Farrell Street Yandina.

Morning tea and catch up starts 9.30am,  
BYO plate of food to share. Meeting to  
start at 10.00am.

Guest speakers: Ron Button will  
demonstrate a hive lifter. Grant  
Eisenmenger will show a video on  
extracting a hive by cutting a wall.

## Donation of hives to the Club

The club would like to thank John Miller and Gerry Turner for their generous donation of hives.

## What the Club plans for its members

On the third Saturday of each month the Club will be open to assist members extract honey from frames. We therefore welcome all members to come with their frames in boxes with containers to store their honey.

## Workshops for New Beekeepers

Our next Beekeeper's Courses will be held on 17 December 2022 and 18 February 2023.

All participants must agree to the Club's covid rules.

**Booking is essential.**

Book online at:  
[www.sunshinecoastbeekeepersinc.org.au/workshops](http://www.sunshinecoastbeekeepersinc.org.au/workshops).

## Club Working Bee

We would also like to thank all the members who volunteered to work at the club for the Month of October.

### NOVEMBER ROSTER

|          |         |                                |             |
|----------|---------|--------------------------------|-------------|
| 05/11/22 | Open    | Peter Keim<br>Dianna Bannick   | John Baker  |
| 12/11/22 | Open    | John Wettenhall<br>Evan Flower | Graham Gibb |
| 19/11/22 | Harvest | Tony Minto<br>Bryan O'Neill    | Frank Vos   |
| 26/11/22 | AGM     | Keith and Felice Eastwood      |             |

## Ongoing Weather Warning for Spring Summer 2022/23

Be aware of the weather conditions as BOM continues to predict that we are about to head into another La Nina albeit weaker weather system over Spring and Summer this year which will mean more rain and flooding. It may not be as bad but be ready and ensure that your hives are dry, well protected and that the bees have adequate honey and pollen stores. Constant rain could again effect the flowering of our large eucalypts and other native bush. Pollen can be bought from Burnett Bees at Caboolture at a reasonable price. I used a large plant saucer which was under cover and once the bees had had enough they lost interest and moved to natural pollens. But be sure to leave enough honey in the hives.



## The Club Online

To save our members time searching online, the Club's website has links to the best beekeeping information and websites we can find.

[www.sunshinecoastbeekeepersinc.org.au](http://www.sunshinecoastbeekeepersinc.org.au)

Also, check out our Facebook page for more Club news.

[www.facebook.com/pg/sunshinecoastbeekeepersaustralia/posts/?ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/pg/sunshinecoastbeekeepersaustralia/posts/?ref=page_internal)

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## Your Club and Covid Safety

We recommend physical distancing, wearing masks and hand hygiene to keep us all safe.

Masks are not all equal – N95 and P2 are the gold standard, then surgical masks and lastly cloth masks are better than nothing.

At this stage of the pandemic no-one really understands the implications of long covid so be like me and don't have it on your bucket list. Take Care.

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## Swarms

We are seriously in swarm season with our swarm team kept busy collecting miscreant bees and their queens.

Southern: Ian Meyers, 0412 694 058.

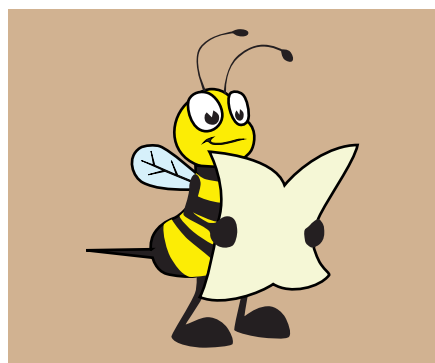
North Coast and Sippy Downs: Grant Eisenmenger, 0401 720 004

Buderim: Tom Cowburn, 0418 143 206.

North and central areas: Alby Taylor, 0418 882 282.

Maleny and surrounds: John Baker, 0418 791 149.

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## BEES IN THE NEWS

**Feral honey bees to be poisoned in NSW varroa mite hotspots to prevent spread of parasite: ABC Rural, Kim Honan 27 September 2022**

The baiting program will target feral European honey bees in varroa mite hotspots in NSW.

Feral bees in red zones is a crucial step in successfully eradicating the parasite.

The apiary industry, Local Land Services, Rural Fire Service, National Parks and Wildlife Service and the Environmental Protection Authority have been welcome and important

partners with NSW DPI in this national response.

Euthanasia of wild European honey bees will be completed using a commonly available insecticide called fipronil. Fipronil bait stations will be located and operated by NSW DPI within the 10 kilometre zone around each of the premises where Varroa mite was detected (the Varroa mite red eradication emergency zone).

The fipronil bait stations are designed to exclude other animals and insects, and to prevent contamination of soil and water. While the fipronil bait stations are in active use the baited area will be supervised by trained staff.

**Beekeeper calls on NSW government to stop destroying hives to control varroa mite: ABC Rural, Keely Johnson 19 October 2022**

A central coast apiarist said beekeepers should be learning to live with varroa mite like

other countries.

His petition to stop the NSW government's eradication strategy has attracted nearly 25,000 signatures.

The government said it was following the advice from industry and experts to control the outbreak.

**Beekeeper Xandra Helbers looks after hives on top of a pavilion at Adelaide Showground: ABC Rural, Eliza Berlage 25 September 2022**

**Exotic bee parasite braula fly detected in NSW as fight against varroa mite continues: ABC Rural, Kim Honan 5 September 2022**

Two-and-a-half months after varroa destructor was detected in New South Wales, another exotic honey bee pest has been found in the state for the first time.

Braula fly, endemic in Tasmania and every continent in the world, was detected in Victoria during varroa mite

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surveillance of almond hives last month.

“Braula is a wingless fly that lives in honey bee colonies but is not considered a significant pest or threat to the welfare of honey bees.”

It is a notifiable pest in New South Wales, which means producers have to report any detections to authorities.

The braula fly prefers to attach to the queen, rather than worker or drone bees, and that could be an issue for queen breeders selling to braula fly free states.

“The easiest place to find them is to have a look for the queen, once you find the queen sometimes she might have half a dozen or more on her,” he said.

The exotic honey bee parasite braula fly has been detected in NSW for the first time.

It was also detected in Victoria last month during varroa mite surveillance in almond pollination hives.

The NSW DPI says it will investigate the illegal movement of hives from Victoria to NSW.

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## 2022 - 2023 Executive and Committee

|                          |                   |                               |              |
|--------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>President</b>         | Katie Livock      | presidentscbees@gmail.com     | 0414 843 342 |
| <b>Vice President</b>    | Grant Eisenmenger | vicepresidentscbees@gmail.com | 0401 720 004 |
| <b>Secretary</b>         | Lynne Hulm        | secretaryscbees@gmail.com     | 0421 720 628 |
| <b>Treasurer</b>         | Paul Bonner       | treasurerscbees@gmail.com     | 0403 432 952 |
| <b>Newsletter Editor</b> | Linda Blackwell   | lineb@internode.on.net        | 0409 848 466 |
| <b>Facebook/website</b>  | Frank Vos         | frankvos@tpg.com.au           | 0412 066 546 |
| <b>Committee</b>         | John Baker        | mail@johnbaker.com.au         | 0418 791 149 |
| <b>Committee</b>         | Graham Gibb       | graham@signedbyme.com.au      | 0414 288 814 |
| <b>Committee</b>         | Tom Cowburn       | tjcowburn@bigpond.com         | 0418 143 206 |
| <b>Committee</b>         | David Lee         | leesbees@lisco.com.au         | 0414 757 220 |

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### Disclaimer

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