

BEE NEWS

January 2022

Issue 125

Monthly newsletter of the Sunshine Coast
BeeKeepers Inc.

www.sunshinecoastbeekeepersinc.org.au



Blue banded bee, photograph by ron_n_beths pics, Flickr.com

President's Report

I trust everyone had an enjoyable and safe Christmas as we head into 2022, the year we say goodbye to the pandemic.

MEETINGS POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Due to covid, the meeting in January has been cancelled.

Members will be informed by email when monthly meetings recommence.

This will be my last report as President as I will be stepping down as President from the 29th of January in favour of our Vice President Katie Livock.

The final certification of the club premises last month, culminates six years of dedicated effort by various committees that I have been privileged to chair.

We are now firmly established so it is time for others to take us to the next level.

Look forward to catching up with everyone at the next meeting which will hopefully be in February. Keep well and bee safe.

Alby Taylor

From Katie Livock our new Acting Club President

I want to begin by thanking Alby Taylor for the enormous contribution he has made to the Sunshine Coast Beekeepers and the beekeeping community. Alby would not want us to make a fuss, but without his efforts (in conjunction with Chris Johnson, Bill Spencer, David Lee, and no doubt others) we would not have the outstanding clubhouse and education facility we have today. He has given up more of his own time than any of us will ever know and we are a strong club because of all he has done. Alby has been a mentor, and will continue to be a mentor, to so many of us. The great news is that Alby isn't going anywhere and will continue to make valuable contributions as a committee member.

I feel very honoured to wear the president's cap until the AGM this year. I know with the support of our committee we will continue to grow as a club which will mean that the beekeeping community, and our amazing bees, on the Sunshine Coast can only get stronger. Thank you Alby, and thank you to our community for the support.

Monthly Club Meetings

Due to the spread of the omicron covid variant throughout Queensland the committee has decided to cancel the January meeting. The committee was concerned that with a potentially large group in our club it would be difficult to ensure the safety of all our members.

We will inform you all when the Monthly meetings recommence. This will be dependent on Queensland Health advice. Only members who are fully vaccinated will be able to attend. All members will need to check in using the "Check in Qld Ap" with evidence of the green tick proving full vaccination, wear a mask, social distance and use of hand sanitisation as required will be mandatory.

Future Monthly meeting focus. At our meeting in November we introduced a topic "Requeening a Hive" with the intent to stimulate an interesting conversation with all members and then to produce notes for inclusion in the newsletter. We would really love to hear of topics that you as members would like to review centred around any current beekeeping issue or issues. Let anyone on the committee know of a topic you would like reviewed. Nothing is too small remember all of us are continuing to learn.

Workshops for New Beekeepers

Our next Beekeeper's Course on 12 February 2022 will be limited to 10 participants consistent with Qld Health covid advice.

Booking is essential.

Book online at:
www.sunshinecoastbeekeepersinc.org.au/workshops.

All participants have agreed to the Club's covid rules as per Qld Health recommendations.

The following Course on 12 March 2022 is open. A decision will be made closer to the date about the number of participants allowed.



* Freepik

Saturday Mornings and Working Bee Volunteers

All members who attend the club on a Saturday morning must check in using the "Check in Qld App", with evidence of the green tick as evidence of being fully vaccinated. They must also wear a mask, socially distance and use hand sanitiser. The Club will have masks and hand sanitiser available.

A member of the committee will be rostered on each Saturday to support the volunteers and members using the facility.

The roster is a work in action and will be circulated as soon as it is ready.

Swarms

Swarm season is at its maximum from September to December each year.

Every beekeeper needs to take management strategies to prevent swarms as bees are often not welcome in our neighbours property.

Southern Sunshine Coast: Ian Meyers, 0412 694 058.

Sippy Downs: Grant Eisenmenger, 0401 720 004

Maleny and surrounds: John Baker, 0418 791 149.

Northern Sunshine Coast: John Writer, 0409 118 888.

Mentors for New Beekeepers

The list is currently under review so will hopefully be available in the new year. New beekeepers who have not been given the name of a mentor please make contact with the Club Secretary Bill Spencer (secretarysbees@gmail.com, 0419 149 947).

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.

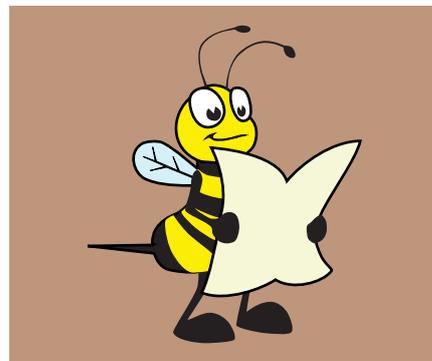
www.sunshinecoastbeekeepersinc.org.au

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

www.facebook.com/pg/sunshinecoastbeekeepersaustralia/posts/?ref=page_internal

Bee Buddy Register

For those members who would like a buddy to assist with the heavy lifting, and for those likeminded who are happy to have a buddy contact the Club Secretary Bill Spencer (secretarysbees@gmail.com, 0419 149 947).



BEES IN THE NEWS

Air pollution reduces ability for butterflies and bees to pollinate flowers and crops, study finds: ABC Science - January 2022

In a controlled field trial, the abundance of bees, flies, moths and butterflies and how often they visited flowers was far lower in the presence of nitrogen oxides (NOx) and ozone, compared to plots where those pollutants were absent.

Nitrogen oxides mostly come from agricultural emissions but are also produced when fossil fuels are burnt. Combined with sunlight and volatile organic compounds, they can form ground-level ozone.

Visits to flowers by pollinators was more than 80 per cent lower where pollutants were present.

Researchers think the pollution interferes with the insects' ability to sniff out flowers.

There could be significant impacts on crops and ecosystems where pollution is high.

Honey bees increase social distancing when facing the ectoparasite Varroa destructor: Science Advances - October 2021

Results from a recent study have demonstrated that honey bees react to the intrusion of V. destructor by modifying space use and social interactions to increase the social distancing between young (nurses) and old (foragers) cohorts of bees. These findings strongly suggest a behavioural strategy not previously reported in honey bees to limit the intracolony parasite transmission.

Pesticide Antitode for 'Bees': Bee Culture The Magazine of American Beekeeping - October 2021



Feeding bees an antidote packaged inside pollen-like particles can rescue them from pesticide poisoning, according to research by scientists in the US.

Old Bee Association State Conference

This conference will be held in Warwick 23-24 June 2022.

2021 - 2022 Executive and Committee

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