



**Amateur
Beekeepers
Association**
NSW MID NORTH COAST

The Bee Line

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

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

July 2020 Newsletter **MNC ABA**

President's Report

Hello everyone.

The AGM saw a number of Office Bearers re-elected and some new "volunteers as well. Many thanks to those who went before and congratulations to the newbies. See list in this newsletter below.

The executive has met to set the scene for the next few meetings and also to do a changeover of signatures at the Bank for our accounts.

COVID-19 continues to impact on our lives and also on our meetings. It is a fluid situation which we have to monitor, and adhere to any changing restrictions. Please read the information below that pertains to our meetings, current at the time of publication.

In lieu of a raffle, the Club will purchase some 'lucky door prizes'. You will receive your ticket when you check in on the day. We shall continue with the \$5 contribution each meeting. The next meeting will be at Sharif's and Yvette's home at Nana Glen. Bring protective clothing as we shall be inspecting hives. We shall also have a discussion to help you understand bee nutrition.

Regards,
Allan

Next Meeting -

Date: 9 August 2020
Time: 10 for 10.30am
Address: 1011 Orara Way –
Nana Glen
Contact: Sharif Batieh – Ph: 0405 490 531
Al Thomas - Ph: 0428 712 587

President: Allan Thomas Ph: 0428 712 587, beekeepingworkshops@gmail.com
Secretary: Monica Rich Ph: 0419 298 586, email: monicarich00@gmail.com
Treasurer: Merridy Huxley Ph: 0421 690 403, email: mhux3198@gmail.com
Vice Presidents: Matt Connell; Don Wood
Membership Officer: Merridy Huxley
Public Officer: Monica Rich
Supply Officer: Don Wood Ph: 0418 112 516
Newsletter Editor: Andrea Stafford ca.rainbird@yahoo.com
Publicity Officer: Vacant

Biosecurity Officer: John Carroll
Social Media Officer: Glen Locke
Librarian: Carina Kerr
Ass.Librarian: Elsbeth Haenggi



The Bee Line

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

CHANGES TO BEEKEEPER REGISTRATION FROM 1ST JULY 2020

Just a reminder that a new condition has come into effect 1 July 2020 requiring existing and new beekeepers registered in NSW to comply with the Australian Honey Bee industry Biosecurity Code of Practice. It is the responsibility of all beekeepers to make sure they are complying with all relevant parts of the Code to avoid possible penalties.

Summary of changes for beekeepers with less than 50 hives:

- Hives must be regularly inspected for pests and diseases. 3 brood inspections a year required, with record keeping.
- Records must be kept for pest, disease inspection and sampling.
- Recommendation (but not enforceable) for beekeepers to maintain a barrier system of hive management.

FRANK'S HIVE HINTS No 7 - Thinking of catching a swarm this coming Spring?

A swarm of bees in Spring
 Is worth a silver ring
 A swarm of bees in Summer
 Is worth the extra number
 A swarm of bees in Fall
 Is worth nothing at all

(Anonymous poem, adapted to Southern Hemisphere)

Usually swarming bees do not sting. Why is that? They have filled themselves with honey so they cannot bend to sting. Do you know that feeling when you have overeaten? Swarming bees are ready to build new comb. Do not give sticky combs for at least 3 days, otherwise they may desert the hive. Just give foundation or dry combs. The larger swarm from a hive is the first one with the old queen. Subsequent swarms from the same hive will be smaller with a young or unmated queen. Sometimes two swarms join together in the air and bees destroy one queen eventually. The different swarms won't fight each other. They will join peacefully. Don't increase or breed from stock that is known to swarm readily as this will increase the swarming tendency and you will always end up with a weak hive susceptible to disease and no honey.
LOVE THOSE BEES.

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



The Bee Line

Newsletter of the Mid North Coast Amateur
Beekeeping Association

BEES IN THE NEWS

Purple Hive Project: An A-I enabled beehive network capable of detecting the Varroa Mite in Australia

<https://purplehiveproject.com.au>

TRAINING COURSES

Two-day workshops in Beekeeping



1. 29th and 30th August, 2020: TAMWORTH
2. 19th and 20th September, 2020: BELLINGEN

Tutor: Allan Thomas
Venues: Tamworth: Tamworth Beekeeping Supplies, 397 Armidale Rd, Tamworth.
Bellingen: 503 Roses Road, Bellingen.
Workshop Fee: \$345 per person for 2 days, 9am – 4pm.

These two-day workshops are a series of lectures and practical tasks. The course endeavours to develop sufficient knowledge, skills and confidence for you to begin keeping bees.

Book/Enquire: Allan - email; beekeepingworkshops@gmail.com or phone 0428712587

FOR SALE

2 x 75 litre stainless steel honey vats: \$100 each. Contact Phil Jury Ph: 0427 223 217



The Bee Line

Newsletter of the Mid North Coast Amateur Beekeeping Association

RECIPE - Honey Almond Slice

Base: 90gm butter, melted
100gm brown sugar
1 cup plain flour
60gm almond meal

Mix ingredients together. Press firmly into rectangular slice tin.
Bake @ 170 degrees for 12 minutes, then cool.

Topping: 125gm butter
60gm Mid-North Coast honey
210gm flaked almonds

Melt honey and butter in a saucepan & simmer for 3 minutes.
Add almonds, then pour over cooled base.
Bake @ 170 degrees for 15 minutes.

BEE SUPPLIES AND SERVICES

Foundation and Apithor

Don Woods has our club's supplies of Wax Foundation and Apithor SHB traps. Please contact him on 0418 112 516 or by email: rabbittrap2873@yahoo.com . The price of foundation will now be \$2.50 per sheet.

Apithor traps are now \$6.50.

Other Services and supplies

Michael Worraker - Has queen cells for sale at various times. Ph: 0408 293 031

Ross Wood - Mated queens and nucs (Grafton). Ph: 0421 817 710

Steve Fowler - All manner of beekeeping equipment for sale. Steve and Janet usually turn up at meetings with a ute full of gear. To pre-order call 0418 412 621

Glenn Locke - Mt Coramba Apiculture - Flow hive mentoring and troubleshooting, nucs.
Ph: 0459 066 297

Steve Hayes - Little Star Bees - Nucs and hives plus native bee courses. Ph (02) 6564 8737

Di McQueen and Scott Richardson - Queens, nucs, hives and beekeeping equipment –
honeybeehives.com.au Ph: 0411 097 275



The Bee Line

Newsletter of the Mid North Coast Amateur Beekeeping Association

UPCOMING EVENTS

1. **Next Meeting – Sunday 9th August 2020**

Location: 1011 Orara Way, Nana Glen

Contact: Sharif Batieh Ph: 0405 490 531

Time : 10 for 10:30 am

Cost: \$5 contribution

Bring your own food and drinks and chairs (see note below regarding COVID-19 requirements).

2. **September** – 13/09/20 – Matt Connell, Bonville

3. **October** – 11/10/20 – Monica Rich, Urunga

4. **November** – 08/11/20 – CHCCS – Bonville

5. **December** – To be announced - any ideas?

COVID-19 SAFETY MEASURES FOR OUR MEETINGS (current 24/07/20)

While everyone is at risk of acquiring COVID-19, the more mature among our population, and those with underlying health issues, are particularly vulnerable to developing more severe symptoms and complications. For this reason, we all have a responsibility to protect one another when gathering for meetings, which will be outdoors for the time being. The following steps are to be followed as a consequence:

- If you feel unwell, and/or have symptoms, get tested and stay at home.
- If you have visited declared 'hotspots' in Victoria or NSW, or have had visitors from these areas, stay at home.
- Bring everything you need with you. At this time we can not share anything, including cups, plates, utensils or food and drink. There can be no buffet.
- When you arrive, use the hand sanitizer provided – often – and for a period of 20 seconds each time. Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth. If your hands are visibly soiled you need to wash with soap and water.
- Record your name and contact details in the book provided, using your own pen (just like you do when visiting cafes, restaurants, pubs). This is to allow for contact tracing if needed, and is vitally important to safeguard our friends, family and healthcare workers.
- Practice social distancing: you must stay 1.5m away from others. Feel free to wear a mask.
- Unfortunately there can be no handshakes, hugs or kisses as a greeting! Do the elbow-bump, or perform a beautiful *Namaste* (it means "I bow to you": place hands together at the heart, close your eyes, and bow).

Monitor your emails for changes or cancellations if conditions alter.



The Bee Line

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