

GOULBURN DISTRICT BEEKEEPERS CLUB

OCTOBER 2022

THE LATEST NEWS, VIEWS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INSIDE

COMMITTEES COMMENTS

—
**NEXT
MEETING
DATE:**

Tuesday 18TH
OCT 2022
@7:30pm

FACE TO FACE
Goulburn
Workers Club

—
DPI NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENTS
COMMENTS

NEXT MEETING

CLUB FIELD DAY

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BY RENATE BARRETT PRESIDENT

Hello and welcome to another fully loaded Newsletter.

Presentations:

Thank you to John for a very informative presentation about Tools and Tricks of the Trade at last month's meeting. We now know what to pack into our tool kits.

Is there anyone else amongst our membership with knowledge of a bee-related subject that might be of interest to us all and who would like to make a presentation? We'd love to hear from you.

A chance to volunteer:

We are searching for a volunteer to take on the role of **Social Media Editor** for our Facebook page. It would not be arduous nor require great technical skills. If you enjoy happy snapping with your phone or camera at stalls, in monthly meetings, or at any bee location, you could be the person we're looking for. Please make yourself know to the committee.

Club Apiary:

This is very exciting indeed. Your committee has commenced work on finding a suitable spot for our GDBC Apiary to be in or around Goulburn. We are also planning to organise some fund raising to finance the equipment to set it all up. This apiary can be used as an introductory learning tool for budding beekeepers as well as for workshops, field days and a place to spend time with bees.

Crookwell Garden Lovers Market

Date: 5th November

Location: Crookwell Showground

Thank you so much for the volunteers who have put up their hands so far to assist at our club stall on the day. It's not too late for others to volunteer. We look forward to a great day with lots of interesting stalls offering a smorgasbord of plants, products and services, all with the garden and home theme in mind.

<https://www.crookwellgardenfestival.com>

Club Field Day

A fun day coming up, please reserve the 20th November and join us at John's place to have a look at different hive types, i.e., Langstroth, Flow hive, Warre hive, and Top Bar hive.

Starts at 10am, 879 Mountain Ash Road, Gundary, **bring a plate**, and don't forget to

RSVP to Goulburn.vp@beekeepers.asn.au

Monthly Meeting:

Your next monthly members meeting will take place at the Goulburn Workers Club (1st floor Function Room) on Tuesday 18th October at **THE NEW TIMESLOT OF 7:00pm.**

The topic: How did you go with your Hive Spring Clean? Round-the-table talk.

See you soon,

Renate Barrett

Goulburn.president@beekeepers.asn.au



NEXT MEETING TOPICS

HIVE SPRING CLEAN ROUND THE TABLE TALK

Your next monthly members meeting will take place at the **Goulburn Workers Club**

Tuesday 18th October at our NEW TIME 7:00pm. Every 3RD

Tuesday of the month

The topic: How did you go with your Hive Spring Clean? Round-the-table talk.

FACE TO FACE lift is now working meeting will be held in the function room upstairs.



CLUB FIELD DAY

SUNDAY 20th November 10AM

879 Mountain Ash Road, Gundry

Meet us at John's place to have a look at different hive types, i.e., Langstroth, Flow hive, Warre hive, and Top Bar hive.

BRING A PLATE TO SHARE, and don't forget to

RSVP to Goulburn.vp@beekeepers.asn.au



RAFFLE

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE MEETING
TUESDAY NIGHT

3 FOR \$5

PRIZE: Fantastic hive stand donated by one of our generous members.



BIOSECURITY

WHAT IS AFB AND WHAT DO I DO IF I FIND IT BY JOHN SCOTT

American Foulbrood, AFB is a bacterial infection of *Apis Mellifera* caused by the bacteria *Paenibacillus larvae*. Unlike most bacteria AFB has an active stage and a spore stage. It is this spore stage that makes AFB a disease that can't be treated. While antibiotic treatment may kill any active bacteria in the hive it won't kill spores which will remain in the hive and become active at a later stage leading to the reestablishment of AFB in that hive.

AFB infects bees as larvae which die in the pre-pupal or pupal stage. With less brood making it to the adult stage a hive with AFB will eventually weaken and die out. This is when robber bees from other hives will come and rob any remaining honey which is very likely to contain spores and carry it back to their hive leading to that hive now becoming contaminated.

AFB spores can remain viable for up to 50 years making proper handling of hives infected with AFB very important.



Sunken cells can be a sign of AFB

The signs of AFB

Being able to see the signs of AFB in your hive is a very important part of beekeeping. This will enable you to intervene quickly and prevent any spread of the disease from your hive.

Symptoms of AFB in a hive are

- Irregular and patchy brood pattern.
- Cell cappings on infected brood may appear sunken, darker coloured or greasy. This is due to the decomposing larvae inside.
- Cappings may also be perforated by bees trying to remove the dead brood (the remains of which are infective).
- The larvae die after capping and become a light to dark brown semi-liquid mass.
- Infected hives may also have a sulphurous smell due to the decomposing brood.

Closer inspection of individual cells in the advanced stages of infection will show that:

- Infected brood changes from a healthy pearly white to a dark brown (a 'ropiness test' can be carried out at this stage - see Detection below).
- The dead larval remains become a tough, but brittle scale that is difficult to remove from the cell.

- If older larvae are infected the 'tongue' of the pupae may become stuck to the top of the cell wall.



Perforated caps and waxy cappings are a sign of AFB

Detection and Diagnosis

The matchstick test is the most common test for detecting AFB. The matchstick test is as easy as plunging a matchstick or something similar into a capped brood cell and using it to scoop the brood inside out of the cell. If the brood comes out nice and white then it is not infected with AFB. If it comes out as a brown ropey substance this may be AFB.



The matchstick test is the most common test for AFB

While the matchstick test is a good indication for AFB it isn't absolutely accurate. Signs of European Foulbrood EFB can also look like AFB and vice versa.

Taking a smear on a slide and sending it to the DPI for laboratory analysis will get a definite diagnosis of that smear.

What to do once AFB has Been Found.

Once you have identified a hive with AFB it is important you take the correct steps.

These are
Notify

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

Call NSW DPI Biosecurity Helpline 1800 680 244, or

[Submit an online report form](#)

NOTE: If you have received a positive AFB result from an AFB slide submitted to the NSW DPI laboratory for testing, the result is automatically documented by the NSW DPI lab and fulfils your notification obligation. There is no need to notify DPI following the sample submission.

Act

If you have AFB, you must kill the bees in the affected hive AND: destroy the affected hives by burning, or treat the hives by hot wax dip, or irradiate the affected hives and frames.

Management to help avoid AFB

Good management practices can help to reduce the spread of AFB and reduce the risk of unknowingly spreading it to other hives or locations.

Brood frames should be inspected at least twice each year. Each brood frame should be inspected as it only takes a few infected cells on one frame for AFB to spread through the rest of the hive. Replacing old brood frames regularly will help to keep a hive healthy and reduce the risk of old brood comb becoming a reservoir for bacteria.

A good barrier system will prevent AFB and other diseases being spread between hives or apiary sites. This involves not moving hive parts and equipment between hives or apiary sites. The scale of your barrier system will depend on how many hives you have.

Cleanliness is also important. Keeping suits, gloves, smokers and hive tools clean will prevent the build-up of disease on these items and the subsequent spread of disease.

A little effort in managing hives well can help to avoid the heartache of losing a hive to AFB.

October is AFB Month so it is the perfect time to check your hive. More information can be found here <https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/animals-and-livestock/bees/pests-diseases/afb-awareness-month> Try the quiz and see how you go.

THANKYOU

A great big Thank You goes out to Gary Poile for organising this workshop and feeding everyone at lunchtime with a BBQ, coffee and tea. Thank you also to those that brought cakes and slices for us all to enjoy.

This workshop gave all participants a great chance to do some hands-on learning and practice with hive and frame construction.

Gary's aim for the day was to assemble eight complete swarm boxes that can now be purchased from him directly at \$125 each. These painted Langstroth boxes are complete with bottom, hive box, lid, eight

frames, strap, and can be used as swarm boxes come brood boxes.

Gary commented afterwards that he admired the workmanship of the entire production day.

Kudos to everyone who participated!!!

If you are interested in obtaining one of these boxes, please contact Gary Poile directly via email poileshoney@hotmail.com.





DO YOU NEED BEES?

Are you in need of bees?
Please take your swarm boxes to the
appropriate swarm collector near you.
Please refer to our swarm page with
swarm collector details and locations.



MEMBERSHIP OFFICER

JANE SUTTLE

MEMBERSHIP.

We now have 74 members of our Club so it looks as though people have been able to renew with greater ease now that ABA have got their new membership record system more or less in place. There are still a few kinks that need to be ironed out so please give me feedback so that I can offer it back to the web people at ABA.

Anne Fry is our only new member this month. Welcome Anne! Of course your 'Welcome Pack' will be at the next General Meeting for you.

I'd like to mention that there is no need for both members of a couple to be members of the club. So long as one of you is, the other is welcome at meetings. It does mean, however that the person who is not a member will not have voting rights at an AGM or Special Meeting. Nor would the non-member be eligible to stand on the committee. The membership status would have to be re-organised if either of these issues mattered to you.

Best beekeeping

Jane



MERCHANDISE

Don't forget our Bee things with our club's logo on them. Some great items can be purchased [here at redbubble](#) .



BOOK REVIEW

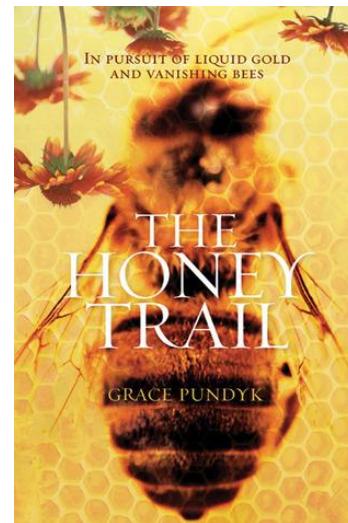
BY SIMON CHRISTOPER

Our club has a small collection of bee books that members are welcome to borrow. Come along to the monthly meeting at Goulburn Workers Club and browse the collection.

Here is a short review of one of our titles.

The Honey Trail: In Pursuit of Liquid Gold and Vanishing Bees

Author - Grace Pundyk



Published 2008 St Martin's Press

Grace Pundyk loves honey and in her book she sets out to explore it's amazing history, culture, traditions and environmental impacts across the world.

Combining travel and adventure through many countries the author looks at different aspects of how honey and bees are being affected by globalization, terrorism, deforestation, the global food trade, and climate change.

In Australia she discusses the large corporations that dominate the honey industry and the regulations that allow them to import honey and blend it but still label it as Australian made as long as it is less than 50% of the packaged value.

It takes readers on an adventure across the deserts of Yemen in the Middle East, the outback of New South Wales, the jungles of Borneo, through the Mississippi Delta of the USA, over frozen Siberian snowscapes and ancient Turkish villages all in search of the liquid gold known as honey.

The Honey Trail was written 14 years ago but the issues covered are even more relevant today. It questions the state of our environment and the impact it is having on bees and honey.

RECIPE

BAKED FETA HONEY CHILLI MINT PARSLEY

<https://www.deliciousmagazine.co.uk/recipes/baked-feta-honey-chilli-mint/>



Baked feta with honey, chilli and parsley

EASY JUNE 2018

SERVES 4

HANDS-ON TIME 10 MIN, OVEN TIME 15 MIN, GRILL TIME 3-4 MIN

Sweet and salty baked feta with honey makes a fantastic starter that's still simple to make. Serve this dish as part of a mezze platter.

VEGETARIAN RECIPES

Ingredients

200g pack of feta

1½ tbsp clear honey

Glug of olive oil

1 finely sliced banana shallot

Good pinch of chilli flakes

2 garlic flatbreads

Handful of chopped fresh parsley

Method

Heat the oven to 200°C/180°C fan/gas 6. Put a large piece of foil on the work surface and cover with a same size piece of non-stick baking paper. Put a the whole pack of feta on top, drizzle over the honey, a glug of olive oil and season with salt and pepper. 1 Add the shallot and a good pinch of chilli flakes. Fold up the foil and paper around the feta to form a parcel, scrunch to seal, then put on a baking tray with the flatbreads. Bake for 15 minutes, then remove the tray from the oven and put the flatbreads on a board (keep warm). 2 Heat the grill to high, then grill the feta parcel on the tray for a few more minutes. Unwrap and serve the feta in its paper, scattered with a handful of chopped fresh parsley with the flatbreads.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Come have a look at our new group on [facebook here](#)



NEWSLETTERS AND LINKS



Have a look at the latest [Wheen Bee Foundation latest buzz](#) an informative newsletter with lots of articles.

LINKS TO EXPLORE

Department of Primary Industries: Varroa mite emergency response
<http://dpi.nsw.gov.au/varroa>

The Goulburn District Beekeepers Club website
<https://www.goulburnbeekeepers.asn.au/>

Amateur Beekeepers Australia website
<https://www.beekeepers.asn.au/>

Irradiation treatment Sydney
<https://steritech.com.au/contact/>

This is your 'Go To' place for Australian info on pests and diseases
<https://beeaware.org.au/>

Mite Fight - Honey bee breeders are stepping up efforts to create colonies that can resist the deadly Varroa parasite
<https://www.science.org/doi/epdf/10.1126/science.365.6451.310>

Free online course Varroa mite training
<https://courses.tocal.nsw.edu.au/courses/varroa-mite-online-training>

SBS Documentary
Episode 6 of the series 'Devoured' - Season 1, entitled 'Great Hive Heist'
Subject: Beekeeping in California and the problems they face.
You will need a subscription to SBS On Demand to watch it.
<https://www.sbs.com.au/ondemand/program/devoured>

How to light your smoker (by Flow Hive)
https://www.honeyflow.com.au/blogs/livestreams/how-to-light-your-smoker-210210?_pos=2&_sid=d842a5ad7&_ss=r&utm_source=Campaign&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Seasonal%20campaign%20%7C%20SH%20%7C%20Newbee%20%7C%20E6%20%7C%20220424&_kx=0nJFBuAjpgCKvjKtxUAmhKZk5d2xfiMcbUtE0I30f7jE%3D.Xf8K9S



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