



THE BEEKEEPER

Volume 20 Issue 4. 2008

Quarterly Newsletter. Established 1954

The North Shore Beekeepers Association (NSW) Inc.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Don't blink! It is true, this is the October issue of "The Beekeeper"

Regrettably our Editor, Dianna Bisset, has left us.

I would like to place on record the Association's thanks for the wonderful work Dianna performed as Editor of "The Beekeeper". With the use of colour and enhanced content she transformed our newsletter into an even more attractive and newsworthy publication.

All this as well as handling memberships.

Additionally this work was performed whilst experiencing ongoing health problems. We wish her well.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR WANTED

Is there anyone out there who is prepared to take the position of Newsletter Editor?
It can be a very rewarding experience
Ring Peter Marvell 9440 2265

Winter has been a very quiet time in the Apiary this year. The month of August was the coldest August, in Sydney, for over sixty years.

Hopefully, with the considerable rain we have had, honey yields will be up on previous years.

Swarming time is with us. If you require a swarm and have not yet placed your name on the list please do so now (or ring me on 9440 2265).

Remember no charge is to be made by members when they collect swarms. A donation to the Association may be made but this is not obligatory.

If you are a new beekeeper and unsure of yourself in collecting swarms, please speak with one of the "old hands", who will be very willing to help.

In respect to the proposed move of the Beegarden to a new site, advice has been received, from Ku-ring-gai Council, that

planning has been delayed by about twelve months and that it will be at least two years before a move can be made.

The threat of varroa is still with us. Come to our Wednesday night meeting at Lindfield on 8 October and see the short film "Bee Afraid". It is a very graphic depiction of what may eventually confront us.

OPEN DAY - 14 SEPTEMBER 2008

We arrived early at the Beegarden to continue setting up for Open Day. It was raining and the weather forecast was for continued rain. By 10.30am we had blue sky and sunshine and it was all go.

What a wonderful day we had. Many members of the public attended and enjoyed the various activities and we are hopeful that some will become members of the Association.

There was much interest in the extracting tent and the tent where a hive was opened and the workings explained. Candle making was a popular exhibit and the showing of films, in the shed, was well patronized.

Our catering members did a marvelous job and honey chicken wings, sausages and salad and honey cake went down well.

Once again we conducted a competition to guess the weight of a block of beeswax. It was good fun.

The correct weight was 1.3kg. Two entries had this weight and after a draw the hamper was won by Mrs Nola Borgelt of Balgowlah.

Last but not least was our sales tent where much honey, face and hand creams, candles etc were sold.

It was a great team effort and I congratulate all those members who staffed the stalls and helped with the setting up and taking down of the exhibits.

Peter Marvell

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

The Chatswood Street Fair was to be held on Saturday, 6 September and we were looking forward to having a great day. The North Shore Beekeepers had a very successful day last year, selling honey, showing bees and explaining about beekeeping and we hoped to have another good day this year. However it was not to be as the fair was cancelled early in the morning because of the rain. Once again we were very disappointed after all the preparation (the Kuring-gai fair was washed out in June).

We still have two fairs to attend this year -

The Cumberland Forest Fair on Sunday, 12 October, 10am to 3.30pm at Cumberland State Forest, 95 Castle Hill Road, West Pennant Hills
And

Wahroonga School Fair on Saturday, 25 October at the Bush School, Burns Road, Wahroonga.

Lets hope the rain holds off on those days!

If you can assist us for an hour or three on one or both of those days, selling honey or talking about bees and beekeeping, we need your help, please phone Joan Stebbing 9489 6476

MEDICINAL VALUE OF PROPOLIS FUNDS FOR RESEARCH

THE university of Sydney has received a grant of \$285,000 over three years for this research to be carried out within the faculties of Pharmacy and Pharmacology. This is a CAM grant (Complementary and Alternative Medicines, a Special Call from the National Health and Medical Council).

Bees use propolis to gum up cracks and also to sterilize their hive to prevent and control infection. Bees collect exudations from leaf and flower buds and secretions from wounds in plants. These materials have a natural function to protect delicate growing or wounded plant tissue from attack by microorganisms, and thus have high antibiotic activity. Currently it is not known whether collected materials are used directly or further modified by honeybees in the production of propolis.

The medicinal properties of propolis have been recognized and used by man since ancient times and has been confirmed by modern research. Details from

<http://www.nhmre.gov.au/news/media/re108/files/complementary-medicine-grants.pdf> (ACT Beekeepers Assn)

Equipment for financial members use

Extractors

Anna Binnie	9887 2371
Ian Savins	9449 5296 & Wiring Boards
Ern Whiting	9955 4231
Greg Deakin	9450 2089

CLUB T-SHIRTS AND HATS

Ladies and men's T-shirts and bucket hats are available from the store on Sunday Field Days.

T-shirts cost \$24.00 Hats \$17.00

NSBA COMMITTEE 2008-2009

President:	Peter Marvell	9440 2265
Vice President:	John Barrett	9440 8380
Treasurer:	Bernard Sendhofer	9412 1871
Secretary:	VACANT	
Membership:	Ian Savins	9449 5296
Apiary Officer:	Greg Deakin	9450 2089
Ass. Apiary Officer:	Michael Vordis	9569 1775
Public Officer:	Ian Savins	9449 5296
Equipment Officer:	Jim Toliopoulos	9727 4584
Ass. Equipment Officer:	Michael Vordis	9569 1775
Newsletter Editor:	VACANT	
Librarian:	Phillip Skewes	9457 9102
Outside Sales:	Joan Stebbing	9489 6476
Swarms:	Peter Marvell, Greg Deaken, Ian Savins	
BICC Delegates:	Milton & Robyn Brown	9476 2455

CHRISTMAS PARTY
SUNDAY 14 DECEMBER 2008
11.30am for 12 noon

The Christmas party will be held at the Beegarden and we ask those who are coming to assist with catering by bringing a "plate" – salads, nibbles, cake, sweets etc.

The club will be supplying a selection of meats.

B.Y.O.G.

We need to know how many are coming and would be grateful if you could complete the enclosed form and return it to the Secretary not later than 5 December 2008. You may prefer to hand it to a Committee Member at one of our meetings.

WANTED

Do you have a **TELEVISION** in good working order that you would be prepared to donate to the Association?

(Or do you know someone who has?)

We need a TV to show films at the Beegarden Shed.

Also needed – a **Video Player**

If you have any of these items contact

Peter Marvell 9440 2265

PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES FOR OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, DECEMBER 2008
AND JANUARY 2009

OCTOBER 8 (Wednesday)	6pm Management Committee Meeting 8pm SHOWING A SHORT FILM ON VARROA " <i>Bee Afraid</i> "	LINDFIELD LINDFIELD
OCTOBER 12 (Sunday)	CUMBERLAND FOREST FAIR OPENING HIVES	CASTLE HILL BEE GARDEN
OCTOBER 25 (Saturday)	WAHROONGA SCHOOL FAIR	WAHROONGA
NOVEMBER 12 (Wednesday)	8pm JUDGING HONEY (Bruce White)	LINDFIELD
NOVEMBER 16 (Sunday)	OPENING HIVES	BEE GARDEN
DECEMBER 10 (Wednesday)	NO MEETING AT LINDFIELD	
DECEMBER 14 (Sunday)	CHRISTMAS PARTY 11.30 for 12pm	BEE GARDEN
JANUARY 14 (Wednesday)	NO MEETING AT LINDFIELD	
JANUARY 18 (Sunday)	OPENING HIVES (Hopefully extracting honey)	BEEGARDEN

The Secretary
North Shore Beekeepers Assn
PO Box 686
TURRAMURRA 2074

I.....will be attending the Christmas Party on
(Name)

14 December 2008 and will be accompanied by.....

I will bring.....
(Salad, Nibbles, Cakes, Sweets etc)

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