Editor: Linda Filsell
Photos in banner:
www.bing/images

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Marie Fish ***Wyonie Siacci***
The designer of the GAA Logo ***Beekeeper***
Both enjoying the GAA Xmas Lunch

Happy 80th Birthday Bob Stevenson

Master Beekeeper at the Melbourne Show

Field Day – 25th March 2018

At Darnum Primary School

From 10am – 3.30pm

See Page 8

For full details

Volunteers required please for the gate, directing traffic and many other jobs. Please call Linda on 0438 266 348 if you can spare a couple of hours on the day.

Gippsland Apiarists Association 2017 Christmas Breakup

Photos and story by: Bill Ringin

Loraine Glowacki with brother John

Ian and Robyn Cane

Around 35 beekeepers attended the GAA's final function for 2017, a Christmas Breakup Lunch, held in the Function Room of the Metung Hotel.

Beekeepers from across the region enjoyed the company of others over a drink, and relaxed meal, overlooking the scenic views of the marina and yachts tacking across the pleasant waters of Bancroft Bay.

Kaye and Dennis Roberts

Neville Hirth and Lisa Coombe

Mick and Nola Camilleri

Alan and Helen Neven

Winter pack down for a Flow hive By Renee and Brian Phillips

So you have a flow hive and you've kept your bees happy and healthy through their first summer, well done ☺ Now with winter approaching you're not quite sure what to do? Well the winter pack down for your Flow hive looks very similar to the winter pack down for a standard Langstroth hive i.e making sure your bees are healthy, they have enough stores and removing extra supers so the bees can manage the hives temperature during winter.

Hopefully you've checked your hive and ensured that they have enough stores to get through winter (this is about 8 frames of capped honey in most of Gippsland). In our flow hive we run one brood box on the bottom, then a queen excluder, then a standard super (this is the stores for the bees), then the flow super on the very top (this is the extra honey the bees can afford to share with us). I will assume that you have checked the brood box and all is ok, and that the standard super has enough stores to see your bees through winter.

For us the winter pack down looks something like this:

1. Hopefully your flow super will be fully capped towards the end of the season (which will be March or April depending on your area, nectar flow and the year we are having). When they are fully capped we take each flow frame out, brush off the bees and put the frames into an empty box. When all the frames are out we brush all the bees off the flow super and take the super off the hive. Now the hive will be the brood box and the 'bee's super'. It's up to you if you want to transfer the flow frames back into the flow super at this stage or do it a bit later.
2. Once the flow super is removed we take the queen excluder out from between the brood box and the 'bee's super' to give the queen and the worker bees free reign of both boxes for the winter. Last winter we tried putting a hive mat on top of the frames in the brood box as well as on top of the frames in the 'bee's super'. It was intended to help discourage the bees from building burr comb over winter and sticking the frames together vertically, it really helped so we will be doing it again this year. You then reassemble the hive with the inner cover and roof. If your hive opening is the standard flow hive opening (i.e across the whole box) you may wish to consider reducing it with a piece of timber wedged into the gap so the bees don't have such a large area to guard in winter – we leave about a 5cm gap at one end. Your bees are now ready to face the winter.

3. Take the flow super inside (for us that is our kitchen as we don't sell our honey, otherwise it would need to be a commercial kitchen to enable you to sell your honey) and extract all the flow frames.

We sit the whole flow super with all the flow frames put back into it on a large tray, tilt it on a slight angle and leave it to drain through tubes into a honey bucket until no more comes out. I know taking the flow super off to extract is kind of contradictory as you are supposed to extract directly from the hive, but we found it easier as we didn't have to deal with the bees ripping the cappings off and trying to re-fill the cells. I have heard of others who extract the flow frames on the hive and leave it for a few days so the bees can clean everything up before removing the flow super for the winter. The bees may however decide to fill the cells again if they have enough incoming nectar – it's your choice which way you wish to go.

4. When the flow super is fully drained we wash the flow frames in warm (not hot) water to remove any residual honey which will attract moisture and ferment. If you make the water too warm it will also melt the wax which we try to preserve to give the bees a head start next season. After washing them and making sure they are fully dry we put the flow frames back into the flow super, put a board over the top and the bottom to stop anything from getting in (corflute sheets work well for this) and store them out of the sun until next spring.

In the first full spring inspection we shake all the bees into the bottom box, replace the queen excluder between the brood box and the 'bee's super' and check in a week or two for eggs to make sure the queen is in the bottom brood box as hoped. After this you can add the flow super when needed.

If you leave the flow super on during winter with no queen excluder under it the queen will lay a LOT of drone brood in it in early spring – yes we are unfortunately speaking from the experience of our first winter, hence why we now have a 'bee's super' to give the queen free reign in 2 boxes without giving her access to the flow frames which we remove so there is no 'dead space' for the bees to try and heat during winter. Drone brood in your flow frames is not something you want as you are left with cocoons in your flow super that are hard to remove, and if you replace the queen excluder after the drones were laid you have to shake the hatched drones out periodically as they cannot pass through the queen excluder to get out of the hive.

Hopefully using these steps you will give your bees the best chance at coming through winter strong and ready for another season while also preserving your flow frames for what they are designed to do – collect honey ☺

Please submit copy, questions and comments for the Winter Newsletter to the Editor before May 8th to: lindafilsell@dcsi.net.au

Or Phone Linda on: 0438 266 348

A big 'Thank you' to those that have submitted copy for this Newsletter

Using Flow Frames to extract honey from regular frames

by Barry Cooper.
Thanks to Long, Tamara and John for allowing me to take the following photos in their apiary.

This procedure involves the transfer of frames from one hive to another. It should not be performed unless both hives are disease-free.

(below) In this example, the right-hand hive has many regular frames of capped honey. The Flow Frames in uppermost box of the left-hand side hive will be used to extract the honey from these frames.

1. (above) An empty box is placed above the Flow frames on the left-hand side hive.

2. A capped frame is removed from the right-hand side hive.

3. (below) The cappings are scraped away.

4. (right) The scraped frame is placed upside down in the empty box on the left-hand side hive. A second upside-down scratched frame is added and both left for two days.

- When doing this, do not add more than two or three frames at a time.
- Also, do not leave the frames for more than a few days. Otherwise the bees may reform and refill the cells.

5. (left) Two days later bees are covering the upside down frames.

6. (right) These frames are now mostly empty.

7. (below) The bees have taken the honey to the Flow Frames

8. (right) The honey can now be extracted from the Flow Frames. Note that this hive's location made it easier to extract the Flow Frames from the front. We just temporarily lifted the back of the hive to ensure that the honey easily flowed out.

Autumn Management

Excess Honey: Reports for this season have been excellent for hobby beekeepers, and after phoning commercial beekeepers for their report, it seems the season has been excellent right across the state. Extracting excess honey can take place until the end of March or April and some seasons early May. This does depend on the season, but whenever you decide that this is your last extraction for the season, make sure you leave 8 full frames of sealed/capped honey to last through the long Gippsland winter. Leave any unsealed honey in the centre of the box with frames of sealed honey on the outside.

As this year was a good year there should be no reason to feed before winter sets in. You must leave enough honey on the hives for the bees for winter. Don't be greedy and take too much!

Check hives end of March and if there is not enough honey at this stage to see the bees through winter, you still have time to feed them. Do this **early autumn** to give the bees time to reduce the moisture, ripen and cap. It needs to be capped **before the weather turns cold**. If you leave this too late, the bees won't have time to do this before the weather gets cold.

Feeding Sugar Syrup in early autumn if you don't have enough honey in the hives to last through winter. Feed well before the cold.

Feeding bees this time of the year requires **1 ½ kg white granulated sugar to 1 ltr water.** A thick mixture as this will encourage the bees to store it.

- Heat the water to hot
- Turn heat to very low
- Gradually add the white granulated sugar stirring constantly.
- Stir until **completely dissolved**, allow cooling.

There are a number of containers that can be used:

Feeders: 3 litre feeders that sit on the top box just under the lid, drown proof and they can be purchased from Ron Branch in Moe. Just lift the lid of the hive, place the feeder on top of the box add the sugar syrup and replace the lid.

Freezer bags containing sugar syrup can be placed under the lid with small holes pieced in the top of the bag to allow bees to suck out the syrup. Don't allow it to drip into the hive. There are also frame feeders and entrance feeders.

How much honey to leave on your hives: If you run 8 frame hives, then in Gippsland we recommend you leave 2 boxes on the hive. The brood box (should have honey and pollen) and a super full of capped honey. So bear this in mind when you carry out your final extraction.

Remove the queen excluder so that the bees can cluster freely near the honey they are feeding on during winter.

Cont'd next page

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Hive Mat: Place a hive mat (a piece of vinyl or similar, cut to fit on the top frames leaving a margin around the edge for bees to come up under the lid. (They may need to come up and feed from a bag of sugar syrup that's under the lid, but on top of the hive mat). The hive mat prevents condensation dripping onto the bees, instead it runs down the inside walls of the hive, also keeping them warmer.

Check levels of hives for condensation to run out the front and not puddle inside the hive: The hives need to be tilted slightly forward, lower at the front than the back, this allows the condensation to drip out the front of the hive.

If you have a slotted or screened bottom board; plug up the air holes in the lid (if you don't, the bees will). This type of bottom board also allows moisture to escape, and debris from the hive falls through. The bees may block screened or slotted bottom boards.

Reduce hive entrances to about three or four fingers width as the weather cools, as this helps the few guard bees to protect the entrance. It also helps prevent other insects invading the hive as well as cold drafts and keeps the hive warmer.

Remove excess supers from the hive in late autumn, unoccupied combs become mouldy and soiled with faeces. This can aggravate the incidence of dysentery and ***Nosema*** disease and ***wax moth attack***. It makes it harder for the bees to keep it warm.

Hive Temperature: Consolidating the hive helps the colony to control its temperature.

How to treat and store excess supers: **Wax Moth and Small Hive Beetle Control**
Supers and frames that are removed need to be treated to prevent them from being destroyed by wax moth while in storage. Pop them in the freezer for a couple of days. Let them dry, then store them in plastic containers or plastic garbage bags. Wax moths don't like the light either, so a light can be used at the bottom of a stack of boxes and frames to help prevent infestation.

Using a chest freezer. Anytime during the season that supers or hive equipment have been removed, pop them in the freezer first. Leave overnight or for 2 nights, remove, dry, then store in garbage bags or plastic containers. This ensures all wax moth and small hive beetle larvae are killed.

Don't disturb your bees: Once you have packed your hives down for winter and followed procedures above and they have honey to last through, don't disturb them until Aug-Sept. Looking in the hive during the winter can chill the bees and this in turn can cause Nosema. If you have packed them down with plenty of honey they are much better left undisturbed until a warm spring day.

Landline **Series 2018 Ep 2** REGIONAL AUSTRALIA –A MUST SEE FOR BEEKEEPERS

Western Australia's new gold rush - liquid honey; Queen Breeding – Antimicrobial honey – Making more money for beekeepers – Burning off needs to be changed. Watch it now on I View

Broadcast 12:30pm Sun 11 Feb 2018. Published 1 week ago, **available until 1:30pm on 13 Mar 2018**. File size approx. 481 MB – on I VIEW.

Watch it before 13th March when its no longer available. http://iview.abc.net.au/programs/landline/RA1801Q002S00

GAA Beekeeping Field Day

Sunday 25th March
Darnum Primary School, 6 Graham St
10am—3.30pm $10 per person—Children Free

The day will be focused on informing the less experienced and beginner beekeepers on the basics of beekeeping.

Topics covered during the day will include -

1. The components of a hive, their use and construction.
2. The purpose, safe use and lighting of a bee smoker and use of a hive tool.
3. Observation hive where live bees including the queen are behind glass so that they can be observed safely.
4. The correct method to approach and open a hive.
5. Inspection of live bee colonies including brood for quantity, pattern and disease as well as honey and pollen stores. (Weather permitting).
6. Honey extraction, tastings. How much honey to leave for the bees.
7. Methods to manage your hives for the bees to get through the winter.
8. Advice on disease, regulations and registration.
9. Questions and answer table. Gippsland Honey for sale.
10. Equipment suppliers with a wide range of beekeeping supplies will be present for sales or advice
11. Various stalls including bee friendly plants for sale.
12. Live bee hives are kept well away from the stalls and amenities.
    Participants are required to provide their own protective clothing (hat, veil, gloves etc) OR purchase them on the day.

Note: Take the South Eastern Freeway from either direction Bairnsdale or Melbourne to Darnum. From Melbourne the Darnum turn off is about 5 mins past the last Warragul turn off. Follow the signs to the Primary School. There is ample parking at the venue with catering and amenities available throughout the event.

Further details and Pre Registration: Neville Hirth 0417 347 688 / 5143 2952 or **Bill Ringin** 0498 594 897 / 5633 1326.

This story all started with a question?

Story developed from emails and photos By Brad Collis – Cape Liptrap

Background: Brad lives in Melbourne and has a hive in Yarraville as well as a hive at Cape Liptrap. He planted flora for the bees a few years before getting bees, so that their food supply was already established. Cape Liptrap Coastal Park features extensive coastal heathlands of Scented Paperbark, Common Heath, Scrub She-oak, Dwarf She-oak, Pink Swamp-heath, Prickly Tea-tree, Silver Banksia and Bushy Hakea. Brad has also planted many Grevilleas, and other natives especially for his bees and that area.

Brad purchased a healthy hive of bees from me (Linda) with no hive beetle. The first season the hive built up in numbers and it wasn't until its 2nd season that Brad put on his flowhive. In the meantime he had a question.

Question (by email): The colony I bought from you late last year is doing well despite a long winter, but over the past 7-8 weeks a large percentage of the population have become black bees. I'm just wondering if there is any general view on this, ie. will they have come from another hive (though I know of none in the area. It's pretty isolated). Or could it just be the genetic diversity arising from drones the queen may have mated with? The hive seems to be otherwise quite normal and in fact the frames in the two brood boxes are full and they have begun work in the super so I am anticipating my first harvest this summer. But I would welcome your thoughts on the black bees … especially if it is something I should be worried about.

Answer (by email): Great to hear from you. Glad the bees are doing well. At one stage I did have a Carniolan queen in one hive and an Italian queen in another. I wanted to find out whether the Carniolan was better suited to Gippsland weather. I am not a believer of pure strains of bees as I think it leaves them more susceptible, so although this year I have re queened my hives with Italian, next year I would change to Carniolan. So it is possible the queen could have mated with a Carniolan Drone, in which case this is definitely not a problem.
I will chat to Bill and see what he thinks.

Reply from Brad: All seems well. I didn't harvest last summer because it was a late start so I let them store honey in the super for winter and removed the queen excluder at the start of winter. I have retained this two brood box set-up, with the excluder now separating the queen from the Flow Hive. This appears to have worked and as of this weekend they have now started working in the Flow Hive; looks like they are waxing the surfaces in preparation. There has been a fantastic flowering in my area. Most of the bees working in the FlowHive seem to be the golden brown Italians and most of the bees returning from foraging seem to be the black bees. I have read that the mix of colours indicates good genetic diversity and thus a good thing, so hopefully that is the case.

I will be re queening in 2018; presumably around October/November is the right time? I now have a second hive in my garden in Melbourne (Yarraville) and these are the most docile bees I have encountered. They completely ignore me when I sit beside the hive watching (fascinated) and even when I lifted the lid to see how the brood combs are coming along. They have also allowed me to practise finding the queen. They look like they'll be ready for the Flow Hive super in about a week's time. All the surrounding gardens are in full bloom along with plenty of old, established street side callistemon. Looking forward to comparing the urban honey with the coastal bush honey where the predominant flora is banksia, tea tree, wattle, flowering gum and a swag of grevillea I planted a couple of years ago in preparation for the hive. (My first honey harvest will have been a long time in the making).

Also, as an aside, I completed the **bee biosecurity course** and thoroughly recommend it to fellow 'newbies'. It adds an extra dimension to inspections.

Re your queen query, I'll probably go for an Italian queen again ... given her mating with different drones would appear to provide plenty of genetic diversity if the appearance of my black bees is any indication.

Regards Brad

Bill Ringin's response: Queen Breeders try to flood the area near their hive with drones with desirable traits so the virgins will have a good chance of mating with desired drones. A queen will mate multiple times and retain sperm from these matings until she thinks she has enough stored to provide for her laying life. At this point she will cease mating and begin laying. The queen does not mate again. Sperm stored in the queens body is then released as she lays female (worker or queen) eggs. The sperm is stored in random order in the queen so her offspring will be from various drones and the colour/vigour/temperament of her female offspring may vary.

The way to avoid this is to get an A.L. Queen which the queen breeder has inseminated in the laboratory from chosen drone stock. This is not a practise normally followed by beekeepers and is quite expensive.

This story will continue in the next issue with photos of the Cape Liptrap Flora and honey.

Questions and Answers from Beekeepers

Question: From Nigel: After having major heart surgery the drugs given effects the bodies chemistry. Does this make the bees behave aggressively?

Answer: By Bill Ringin. My reading from a non medical perspective is that it's more likely that the bees over time have swarmed and gradually become more aggressive. There are a number of reasons the bees could be more aggressive but I doubt its anything to do with the medication. I suggest you re queen and see how that goes.

If hives are left to their own devices, the qualities we want may not be passed down from the queen to her workers. The bees may become angry, aggressive and hard to handle, they may not produce the honey you were expecting, and your hives may become susceptible to disease because your bees are not keeping the hives clean enough. They also may be swarming too often and you could be losing your bees.

New Queens lay thousands of eggs in their first two years which will give you a highly productive hive, whereas old queens will lay sporadically leaving you with moderate or weak hives. New queens usually survive the winter, and old queens can die leaving your hive likely to die out over winter.

How often should you re queen? Most commercial beekeepers re queen every year, and so do some hobbyists. A lot of hobbyists re queen every two years. A number of hobbyists never re queen, and they are left feeling puzzled as to why they are having so many problems.

Answer: NSW Ag Dept: From October through to the early autumn months, drones are usually plentiful. Thus, if you are breeding queens, the virgins will be adequately mated. If you are buying queens, the commercial queen breeder will be able to supply a mated queen from October onwards.

It may not be necessary to re-queen every year, but the vigour of a young queen will assist the colony in overcoming mild disease symptoms, building up a strong populous hive capable of collecting a large honey crop. Particularly savage hives can be requeened with a strain of bee which is easier to handle and manipulate.

Question: Is it better to put a new queen into the hive in Autumn or Spring?

Answer: By Linda: Well I usually re queen in Spring, but have had the problem of cold springs meaning that Queen Breeders do not have their new queen's ready until late November or even December. This year the queens were slow starting and took a while for my hives to build up in numbers to produce honey. I find that a problem and have decided to re queen next Autumn instead.

By Neil Barraclough: We always re queen in Autumn – it has a number of advantages, the young queen ensures the hive doesn't die out in winter, it's easier for the hive to accept a new queen, she is ready to lay from early spring, when you could be waiting around for queen breeders to have their queens ready. They won't swarm in their 1st season. I recommend Autumn re queening.

Other beekeepers : Have their reasons for re queening in Spring! So try both seasons and let me know how you go.

Ellinbank Primary School Visit

Ellinbank Primary School asked our club to present a talk on bees. One presentation to the younger children and one presentation to the older children.

Bill Ringin and myself (Linda) went along to this lovely school with very polite children and talked to them about bees. Although the boys were mortified that the worker bees were female, and that there was no King but a Queen in charge of the hive, they were happy to try on the hat and vail and look like a beekeeper. What about the boy bees they wanted to know!! We explained the role the boy drones played in the bee hive world. Hmmm, they didn't like the fact that the workers kicked the drones out when winter came to save on stores. The girls thought that was funny and there were giggles all around!!

They could hear the bees humming under the cloth of the observation hive and couldn't wait to see them. First they wanted to know if they could get out and sting them. No! No! No! we assured them, you are quite safe. The older children were more refined and waited for the observation hive to come their way. The queen was marked with a pink dot and of course, they all wanted to find the queen. They were also lucky to see some baby bees hatch.

The best part of the morning was to taste the honey. Most coming back for seconds and even third's. They all agreed the honey was delicious.

Market Matters – By Stan Glowacki

With higher prices being paid for bees wax, beekeepers are rushing to sell their surplus wax, as it is their right to do so. But with that rush not enough people are putting aside wax to exchange for their foundation wax needs. This is driving up the cost of foundation which leads into the second problem.

There is cheap Chinese foundation on the market. When you order foundation from China you can specify what percentages of other waxes you can blend with the foundation. Chinese wax has been adulterated with different waxes for so long some major wax consumers, outside of the beekeeping industry, have stopped buying Chinese wax. Even when supplied with a certificate stating it is pure, the certificates have been found to be of suspect testing methods or down right forgeries. My recommendation would be to steer clear of Chinese foundation unless the person you are buying from has an Australian Test Certificate for that batch of wax. One Japanese honey packer we visited has their own factory in China and any product they import into Japan, from their own factory, is tested in China and then tested again in Japan before they use it.

Due to overseas travel again, Jeeralang Apiary Supplies will be operating with restricted services - closed from the 6th March until the 17th April. My apologies also as I will be missing the Field Day on the 25th March.

Apimondia 2017 - http://www.apimondia2019.com

Apimondia 2017 took place in Istanbul, Turkey. This International Beekeeping Conference takes place every two years, at a venue picked four years in advance. The previous one, in 2015, was in Dejon South Korea. The next one is in Montreal, Canada in Sept 2019. More details will be published on their web site as they become available.

The Conference is run over five days with the fifth day being reserved for Technical Tours. During the day, there are a number of lecture programs running and participants can wander between the various lectures on subjects that interest them. The lecture programs are divided into **Apitherapy. Beekeeping Economy, Biology, Bee Health, Pollination and Bee Flora. Beekeeping Technology and Quality and Beekeeping for Rural Development.**

Running at the same time is an Api Expo which is a major apiculture trade show for all manufacturers of beekeeping equipment, and a great place to see the latest innovations and who makes what, along with who is copying things from previous trade shows.

This year there were some very interesting talks on bee nutrition and a testing program of feed supplements from around the world, being conducted by a UK University. Another topic of much interest was bee genetics.

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Concerns are being raised that with beekeepers concentrating on the main breeds of bees (Italian, etc) for their replacement queens the local bee populations are dying out or are cross breeding with drones from the main breeds and genetic diversity is being lost. Should a catastrophe occur (think Irish Potato Famine) the loss of diversity will make it worse. This is even more concerning for Australia as our genetic base is very small to start with.

Adulteration of Honey: Another continuing problem under discussion was the adulteration of honey with different sugars. As soon as a test is developed for one type of sugar, the adulterators start using a different type of sugar. The problem of contaminated wax is the same. Once a test is developed the suspects start using a different type of wax. Two exhibitors at the Api Expo were selling major testing machine that any University or Laboratory would be proud to own.

There is a large honey competition for all of the class categories. This Apimondia saw **Lindsay Bourke, of Tasmania,** win **gold medals** for his honey mead, again, as well as a medal for his honey beer. Also **Tim Heard** and **Sturt Anderson won medals**.

Lindsay Burke

Sturt Anderson

Section of honey comb, showing different stages of the bee development. Unfortunately too expensive and heavy to bring home as a souvenir but would make a great educational display.

Overall Apimondia is a great experience which increases your knowledge base, introduces you to new experiences, and people. It may not be that expensive with tax deductions available for business people.

Loraine Glowacki standing next to a large model of a honey bee with motor operated head, mouth pieces and wings.

Mentors List

The following beekeepers are happy to chat and help with any queries or questions. If you live nearby one of the beekeepers you may be able to go and watch them at work or they may be able to pop over and show you how to check your hives. This is all done under a voluntary basis.

Name	Area	Phone Number
Linda Filsell	Warragul	0438 266 348
Bill Ringin	Moe	0498 594 897
Rob West	Traralgon	0431 475 784
Luke Wilson	Traralgon	0438 326 096
Neville Hirth	Sale	0417 347 688
Mick Camilleri	Lakes Entrance	5155 3100
Clive Hammet	Swan Reach	5156 4697
Neil Barraclough (After 7pm)	Stratford (after 7pm)	0429 888 706
Brian Teese	Maffra	0419 539 574
For Leongatha area the South Gippsland Beekeepers have a mentors list.		

Edward A.D. Mitchell *et al.* Tested 192 honey samples for five commonly used neonicotinoids: acetamiprid, clothianidin, imidacloprid, thiacloprid, and thiamethoxam. Samples were taken across all continents (except Antarctica), as well as numerous isolated islands. Overall, 75% of all honey samples contained at least one neonicotinoid; of these contaminated samples, 30% contained a single neonicotinoid, 45% contained two or more and 10% contained four or five. Concentrations were highest in European, North American, and Asian samples.

The situation is bleaker for pollinators, however. Widespread application of neonicotinoids has been identified as a key factor responsible for the global decline in pollinators, particularly bees

Photocopying the Newsletter: Important Notice:

For those members that have an email address it would be appreciated if you could give us that instead of a postal address. Our printed copies need to be kept to an absolute minimum.
Of course if you don't have an email address then we shall print out copies. As you can understand email copies don't cost us anything which allows us to keep our membership costs very low. Please call me (Linda) on 0438 266 348 and give me your email address if you have one. Thank you for that.

With thanks to:

Jeff Bourman MLC

Phone (03) 5623 2999 Office: 1/9 Napier Street, Warragul 3820

For printing of this newsletter funded from Parliament's Electorate Office and Communications budget

Classifieds Classifieds Classifieds

Bobs beekeeping business for sale

Contact Bob Owen on 0403 776 388 or Email : bob@bobsbeekeeping.com.au

Jeeralang Apiary Supplies
Closed 6th March- 17th April
Phone Stan
5122 2641

Have you done the Bio Security Course Yet?
See Page 18

Contact Bronwyn Barton on 0433 035 143. Beginner Beekeeping booklets only $2.00 Plus Postage. or email: bbbabarton@gmail.com

ADVERT

Free promotion of local products and produce including honey etc. John is making a directory which is **FREE** to put your entries in to and **FREE** for people to access. All local beekeepers and any other local products and produce welcome to go into the directory. It is for locally produced produce and products, not products shipped in and packed locally.
Subscriptions are free.
Contact John on 0427030506

GAA Field Day – 25th March – Darnum Primary School –

See Advert Page 8 - Volunteers required

Please contact Linda on 0438 266 348 to volunteer a couple of hours of your time on the day

Upcoming Events 2018

GAA

For more information please contact:

Neville Hirth on 5143 2952

Bill Ringin (5633 1326)

Or 0498 594 897

Brian Teese 0419 539 574

Gippsland Apiarist Association Field Day on Sunday March 25th from 10am – 3.30pm at Darnum Primary School

See the Flyer on page 8.

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED FOR A COUPLE OF HOURS ON THE DAY.

Please phone Linda 0438 266 348

South Gippsland Branch

Peter and Margaret Gatehouse

Phone : 0423 244 107

Website:
http://www.southgippslandbeekeepers.org.au/

2nd Thursday of each month starting at **7.30pm** at St Peters Anglican Church Hall, Cnr McCartin & Bruce St's, Leongatha. The meeting is followed by supper with tea, coffee and nibbles.

South Gippsland Beekeepers Facebook Page

West Gippsland Community Group

West Gippsland Beekeepers

4th Wednesday of the month at 7pm – located at the YFC Rooms 22 Normanby Street Warragul

Facebook page for more details

Central Gippsland Sale Beekeeping Group

Phone Neil Barraclough
0429 888 706

neilbarra@bigpond.com

At Sale Greyhound Club 3rd Saturday of the month at 10.30am in the Champions room. Except March, see below.

17th March: - **MEETING AT BENGWORDEN HALL** – Bring your safety gear.
21st April: - Honey tasting – everyone please bring some of your honey to taste. How to pack down for winter. - Do I need to feed? How do I feed? Hive inspection? – Bring your safety gear.
19th May: - When and how to render wax, when and how to store wax on the frame till next season. Uses for beeswax – candles, lip balm, hand cream, etc
16th June: - Biosecurity code – what are our responsibilities? Record keeping – paper records, computer software, apps, etc.

East Gippsland Bee Care Group - Orbost

Contact- Penny Gray-
5154 2843 or 0429 142 225

1pm at Sale Neighbourhood House We meet on the 3rd Sunday of (most) months.

Current proposed program to June: **March** Guest speaker - **April**- shutting down for winter - **May**- re-queening **- June**- diseases, how to determine them, management .

GAA Executive Contact

Please supply the Editor with any details that are currently incorrect. Thank you.

Neville Hirth

Ian Cane

Bill Ringin

Linda Filsell

Rob West

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BIO SECURITY online course only requires basic computer skills, so if you want to do the course at home you can go online and finish it within about 1.5hrs.

To get the instructions for the online course go to:

https://honeybee.canopihr.com.au

Print off the instructions to make them easy to follow while you are working on your computer. These instructions give you access to the course, through to completion.

If you are interested in an assisted class phone Jessica Hartland 0447 245 558 or email her on : jessica.hartland@ecodev.vic.gov.au

	Gippsland Apiarists Association Inc Application for Membership			
Name				
Address: **Post code**				
Telephone:	( )		**Mobile:**	
Email:				
Emergency breakdown List for your area	**Yes**	**Swarm List for your area**	**Yes**	**Please circle your requirements.**
	No		**No**	**For more details, phone the Secretary**
Scale of membership fees:	**No of colonies:** 0-5 6-50 50 and over	**Amount** $15.00 $20.00 $40.00	**I hereby enclose: $** Being my subscription / renewal to the end of the financial year ending 28th February.	
Please sign:	In the event of my admission to the Association I agree to be bound by the rules of the Association being in force at the time. **Signature:** _____			
	Forward cheque and this form to: The Secretary, G.A.A. Inc. Mr B Ringin, PO Box 201 MOE Victoria 3825			