



AUSTRALIAN HONEY BEE INDUSTRY COUNCIL INC.

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Monthly News June/July 2020

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If you haven't already become a Friend of AHBIC, we welcome you coming on board to help us!*

CONTRIBUTE HERE

Or use the form on page 2

Supporting Australia's national beekeeping industry with a voluntary contribution

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Please complete this form and return by email to finance@honeybee.org.au or PO Box 42 Jamison Centre, Macquarie ACT 2614

Friend Category	Investment	Friend Category	Investment
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Platinum	\$20,000 - \$59,999	Bronze	\$500 - \$999
Gold Plus	\$5,000 - \$19,999	Copper	\$100 - \$499
Gold	\$2,000 - \$4,999	Other	\$0 - \$99

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Address:

.....State.....Postcode.....

Email: (Please PRINT clearly).....

Phone: Date:

Payment Method

Amount: \$.....

1. EFT Deposit (preferred payment method)
Account Name: Australian Honey Bee Industry Council Inc
Bank: Bendigo Bank
BSB: 633 000
Account No: 150 976 405
Reference: Please include your NAME as the reference
2. CHEQUE: Please post cheque with this form to PO Box 42 Jamison Centre Macquarie ACT 2614
3. CREDIT CARD: Online at <https://honeybee.org.au/friends-of-ahbic-voluntary-contribution/>

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Your contribution is gratefully appreciated, thank you.

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The Australian Honey Bee Industry Council (AHBIC) is the peak industry body for the Australian beekeeping industry working for all within our industry including honey producers, honey packers, pollinators, queen bee breeders, equipment manufacturers/suppliers

The following list recognises contributions received for the last 12 months. A number of generous contributors wish to remain anonymous. We encourage beekeepers to support those packers, queen bee breeders, equipment manufacturers/suppliers who contribute to AHBIC.

Thank you to all our contributors & supporters. AHBIC appreciates your generous & ongoing support.

Friends of AHBIC – Voluntary Contributions

PLATINUM PLUS (0)

PLATINUM (2)

Hive & Wellness Australia Pty Ltd
Beechworth Honey Enterprises P/L

GOLD PLUS (5)

Australian Honey Products P/L
Baker Beekeeping Pty Ltd
Beekeeping Australia Pty Ltd
Goldfield Honey Australia Pty Ltd
Sterling Kershaw & Co
Almond Board of Australia

GOLD (7)

Amateur Beekeepers Assoc. NSW
Cotton, Allan & Michelle
Hampel, SJ & SM
NSW Apiarist Association
McDonald, Peter and Michelle
Weerona Apiaries
Woolfe, BD & CA
Zadow, IM & MJ

SILVER (24)

Australian Quality Honey (Blue Hills Honey)
Bees Neez Apiaries
Brenton, Daryl
Boyd Apiaries Pty Ltd
Cairns District Beekeeping Assoc
Cooper, Casey
Davies Apiaries
Desert Breeze Honey
Eastburn, Murray & Sandy
Gells' Honey Maryborough
Hampson, Terry (Daybreak Apiaries)
Hooper Honey (Ben Hooper)
Kuyan Apiaries
Le Feuvre, Danny
McDonald, Bob & Eileen
Michie, Robert & Raelene
Pavy, Rod
Porter, ML & DJ
R. Stephens Apiaries
Ruge Honey
Victorian Recreational Beekeepers Association
Warral Apiaries P/L
Victorian Recreational Beekeepers Association

BRONZE (10)

Clarke, RK & KM
Cunial Beekeeping Pty Ltd
Heritage Honey (P. Norris)
Holscher, Luke
Ipswich & West Moreton Beekeepers
Lutze, B&L
Masters, Neil
Mumford, Dave & Wendy
Targett, Stephen
Walkabout Apiaries

COPPER (26)

AB's Honey
Ascot Veterinary Group
Ballarat Regional Beekeepers
Bee Scientifics (Jody Gerdtts)
Berry, Jessica
Bayside Beekeepers Assoc.
Clarke, Michael
Clifford, David
Cooper, Barry
Frost, Liz
Gustare Honey Australia
Honey in the Garden
Hoskinson, HL & HM
Jordan, Corinne
Kennett Apiaries (SA) Pty Ltd
MacGibbon, Kevin
Nairn, Mal
Northside Beekeepers Assoc.
Petratos, Aris
Redpath's Beekeeping Supplies
Sedgwick, Peter (Honeyworks P/L)
Stokes, Peter
Trigg, Margaret
Weatherhead, Trevor & Marion
Westlands Honey Beverley WA
Wilson, Luke

OTHER (4)

Davey, Robin
De Broun, Pauline
Honeylife Australia
Shaw, Robert

NON-PUBLISHED Value (17)

Australian Women in Beekeeping
Bec's BeeHive Beekeeping Supplies
BeelInventive (Flow)
Ecrotek
Evans, Trevor & Faye
Faithful, Mark
Gilbert, Martin & Lorraine
Geelong Beekeepers Club
Gold Coast Regional Beekeepers
Hibberd, GL & HK, HSH Apiary
Leemon, Diana
Lewis, Peter
Matsen, Jeff
Moggill Honey
Naicol Pty Ltd
WA Pure Honey
Watson, Jim

ANONYMOUS (13)

Did you expect your name to be listed here?

Please check your emails for a message from AHBIC inviting you to renew your contribution (AHBIC emails often end up in spam) or feel free to email [Helen Goodall](mailto:Helen.Goodall@ahbic.org.au).



NOTE FROM THE NEW CHAIR, TREVOR WEATHERHEAD

This is my first report as Chair of AHBIC. It is an honour to be able to serve in this capacity.

Firstly I would like to pass on thanks to Peter McDonald for his time as Chair of AHBIC and also his time on the Executive before that. There have been many issues that have come up during the time Peter was Chair and he handled them with his usual efficiency. Also thanks to Michelle his wife.

Our AGM was a success with the new format (via ZOOM) forced upon us by covid-19. Thank you to Ben McKee and Peter Barnes for allowing themselves to be put forward to serve on the AHBIC Executive. The rest of the Executive Members are Stephen Fewster as Deputy Chair, Therese Kershaw and Leilani Leyland. We are all held together by our hard working CEO Helen Goodall. I am sure we will make a great team to take our industry forward.

If there are issues that you think AHBIC should be attending to, feel free to bring them up with your AHBIC Council representative so they can bring it to our attention. There are many issues that we have on the books at the moment and we are looking to address these as soon as possible.

Covid-19 is presenting problems for interstate movement of hives, particularly as we are coming up to the almond pollination time. I know the Queensland and New South Wales Associations are working together and liaising with their State Governments to work out how the movement of the hives to pollination can occur. If you require information contact your State Association.

So I hope that the coming season is looking better than the last for many of the beekeepers but from some reports it will again be a challenging time. Remember that there are financial counsellors available to help you through the tough times and most of all don't bottle it up inside. Talk with someone about your issues. Remember it will all turn out for the best in the long run but stick with it. Remember HiveAid can help and for those who can support HiveAid with donations I would urge you to do so. See the AHBIC website for details.

Trevor Weatherhead AM





NOTE FROM CEO, HELEN GOODALL

As previously advised, AHBIC held our Annual General Meeting on the 6 July 2020 via a zoom meeting. While the meeting did not allow for observers, it was successful in providing AHBIC members with a virtual meeting format. However, it was agreed that there is significant value in continuing to hold the AGM's as a face to face in the future.

AHBIC have commissioned research agency Pollinate (funded through AgriFutures) to conduct research to develop a communications plan to raise awareness of the crucial role of honey bees. Raising awareness of the crucial role of bees - many are aware of the role bees play in ecosystems and agricultural industries, however many are not. This project seeks to create a communications plan that will assist industry in raising awareness of the importance of bees for; healthy ecosystems, healthy forests and global food security. A range of stakeholders including AHBIC members, people from adjacent industries and the general public will be interviewed to gain insight and input. It expected that the results from this work will be realised in the next few months.

During the month I had the pleasure of participating via zoom in the Cooperative Research Centre (CRCs) Association Early Career Researcher Showcase Finals which celebrates science communication. Approximately 50 post graduate (Masters and PhD) students and early-stage postdoctoral researchers from CRCs competed to clearly and succinctly explain their research, how their project will benefit society, and their individual role in delivering the science. There were five finalists from different areas of science, with Jessica Moran, CRC for Honey Bee Products who is developing a 'beehive breathalyser' being awarded the overall finalist. To read further about the research please see page 7.

AHBIC provided a document of support for inclusion in the Queensland Beekeepers' Association (QBA) submission for the undertaking of a review of the Nature Conservation Act of 1992 that would have ultimately excluded beekeeping activities with Queensland National Parks from the 31st December 2024. The Public Land Estates of Southern Queensland, including National Parks, are of national importance to the industry as a large percentage of Australia's queen bees are produced in this area because of its diverse floral resources and climatic attributes. Any loss of this area will significantly impact the Honey Bee and the Honey Bee pollination dependent industries viability throughout Australia. Southern Queensland has also important floral resources for beekeepers from other States, these areas are an important component of the resource matrix that beekeepers utilise when abundant flowering occurs. QBA should be congratulated on the hard work and dedication in working to resolve this. An outcome of the review is still be confirmed. Thank you to the AHBIC Executive and Ian Cane, Chair of the AHBIC Resources sub-committee for the work in preparing the document.

Many may already be aware that AHBIC welcomed a new member, the Amateur Beekeeping Association of NSW (ABA). The ABA is the first new permanent member since AHBIC was created almost 22 years ago. We welcome ABA and look forward to having continued representation from the non-commercial sector.

Lastly, I would like to say a special thank you to the outgoing Chair, Peter McDonald. Thank you for your professionalism, hard work, obvious dedication to the industry and particularly the support and patience you have provided to me over my first three months. With Trevor Weatherhead as the new Chair, the continuing Executive members and Ben McKee as a new Executive member, we will continue to work for the benefit of the industry.

HEAR FROM....

Amateur Beekeepers Association of NSW (ABA)

The ABA is thrilled to be voted in as a permanent member of AHBIC at a time when more and more Australians are taking up recreational beekeeping. The ABA alone has seen a ten-fold increase in membership in the last decade, and now supports more than 3000 members across 29 affiliated clubs in NSW, SE QLD and the NT.

It began with a motto of “Better apiculture through knowledge” and that’s still a guiding principle. Indeed, the ABA sees it as a key task to help non-commercial beekeepers learn and practice good bee management and biosecurity — for the sake of their own bees but importantly to protect the whole industry.

To that end, the ABA has been running a major project this year to mail a special membership package to each new and existing member. This includes a printed copy of the Biosecurity Manual for Beekeepers (with financial assistance from the Bee Biosecurity Contingency Fund NSW) and an inspection logbook designed for small-scale beekeepers.

While COVID-19 restrictions have forced clubs to rethink how they support members (online meetings, social media groups, video lessons . . .), in recent weeks the ABA has been reminding members that the Beekeeping Code of Practice became mandatory in NSW on July 1. Members across the ABA network have been playing an online Kahoot! quiz by answering 20 questions that test knowledge of the code. (The ABA is happy to share this quiz with other organisations that could use it — please just get in contact with us at editor@beekeepers.asn.au.)

WA Farmers Beekeeping & Bee Industry Council of Western Australia (BIWCA) Section Update

WAFarmers Bee Industry Section

This month we have opened discussions with the Noongar Land Enterprises Council, Bushfires Volunteers WA and Wines of Western Australia to see if there is an opportunity to form a Cultural Land Management Alliance to move away from the simplistic approach of prescribed burning by percentages. With 2.5m hectares of native veg in the South West Land division and some of the most biodiverse flora in the world, the state government for too long has been running a burning regime that is doing irrevocable damage to the environment.

Hopefully this new alliance which we are seeking to bring together will grow to include land care and conservation groups as well as elders representing the seven regional traditional owner groups. The aim will be to ensure all stakeholders have input into state government fire mitigation management practices.

Stephan Fewster
WAFarmers

BIWCA

The past month we have been busy gathering ideas from key industry people on how to restructure BICWA to a unified peak body. We soon invite all member groups to a workshop, identifying the new structure with all information gathered. Once agreed, we ask for guidance and support from Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) to help finalise and set us up in our bright new future.

We had a Zoom meeting with AHBIC on the current national Bushfire recovery plan. BICWA can use this valued information to bring into the meeting with the Director General of Department of Biodiversity, Conversation

and Attractions (DBCA), Mark Webb, later this month. BICWA is in contact with Stefan de Haan and Jason Foster, DBCA, to arrange the rescheduled meeting regarding strategic firebreaks/mechanical mitigation work trials in Moora District.

It's great to see the support we have received from the Agriculture Produce Commission in starting to fund some of our projects. This is necessary to run our industry in the future and makes us able to grow with strength. We also would like to thank DBCA and DPIRD for their ongoing support and opening up the communication lines. This is a very positive step and welcomed by BICWA.

Brendon Fewster
BICWA Chairperson

EXTENSIONAUS

Ensure you make the most of these informative [ExtensionAUS](#) resources.

- Have your say on [queen breeding](#)
- Is one food source good enough? Effects of [monoculture on honey bees](#)

GENERAL NEWS AND LINKS – AUSTRALIA

- Jessica Moran from the Cooperative Research Centre for Honey Bee Products aims to develop a "[beehive breathalyser](#)" which will diagnose American foulbrood (AFB) without having the need to open a hive. American foulbrood has a very particular and strong smell. For the past two years Jessica has been using mass-spectrometry to analyse the smell of healthy and AFB-diseased brood, to understand what chemical compounds are responsible for that AFB smell
- [Honey Traceability Project](#) to safeguard the future and quality of Australian Honey
- A record number of [beehives](#) are expected to be transported into Victoria's north-west next month for the almond pollination season. It is the biggest movement of 'livestock' in Australia with billions of bees making the annual journey into nut orchards. Yes, bees are [classified as livestock by the Australian Taxation Office](#)
- The National Plant Biosecurity Status Report for 2019 is now available at [report](#). This report provides information about the role of the honey bee industry
- [Enhancements to the National Bee Pest Surveillance Program](#) have delivered a range of valuable outcomes to support the health of Australia's bees. Head of biosecurity, at the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, Lyn O'Connell, said the enhancements will help prevent incursions of exotic bee pests and pest bees
- Nuffield Australian Farming Scholarships [applications open](#)
- The Black Summer Editorial in [Australian Forestry](#)
- Prescribed burning in south-eastern Australia [history and future directions](#)
- Indigenous [knowledge](#) meets beekeeping science in Western Australia's Kimberley region

- 2020 Beekeeper Survey. Plan Bee aims to foster a sustainable national genetic improvement program using innovative breeding technologies to transform the performance of honey bees in Australia. As part of this work we are assessing the attitudes of queen bee producers and beekeepers toward queen breeding and purchase in order to inform the program. Please click [here](#) to undertake the survey.

Please see link to the [APVMA website](#) to view all information from the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines (APVMA) Gazette which is published fortnightly and contains:

- details of the registration of agricultural and veterinary chemical products and other approvals granted by the APVMA
- notices as required by the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code (the Agvet Code) and related legislation
- a range of regulatory material issued by the APVMA.

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