



AUSTRALIAN HONEY BEE INDUSTRY COUNCIL INC.

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Monthly News May 2021

Enjoy reading this newsletter and learning about our work on behalf of your honey bee industry?
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 the last page

Supporting Australia's national beekeeping industry that supports you



Bee Friendly Pastures

In the Southern Tablelands region the Kershaw family have been experimenting with legumes and bee friendly seeds for soil health, queen rearing and feed for merino sheep and fat lambs. The trials began in 2013 beginning with oats and vetch sown to increase nitrogen to the soil. Over the years other beneficial legumes - Balansia clover, Arrow Leaf, Sub Clover and Red Clover have been included in their seed mix.

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CONTENTS

Page 3	Acknowledging our Friends of AHBIC
Page 4	News from the Chair Trevor Weatherhead
Page 5	Note from the CEO Helen Goodall
Page 6	Hear from a AHBIC member
Page 7	Hear from a Friend of AHBIC
Page 7	Publications and Resources
Page 7	News
Page 8	Government updates
Page 8 & 9	Events
Page 10	B-QUAL
Page 11	Friends of AHBIC Voluntary Contribution Form

UPCOMING MEMBERS CONFERENCES

Queensland Beekeepers Association – Annual Conference and AGM, 3-4 June 2021, Mantra Sharks Event Centre, Southport, QLD

South Australian Apiarists Association (SAAA) – Annual Conference and AGM, 24 -25 June 2021 , Berri Hotel, Riverland, SA

Bee Industry Council of WA (BICWA)

- Australasian Honey Bee 2021 Research Conference 29 June – 1 July 2021, Perth WA

Victorian Apiarists Association (VAA)

- Annual Conference and AGM Sessions, 7 – 9 July 2021, Bendigo VIC

Australian Honey Bee Industry Council (AHBIC) AGM, 11 July 2021, Bendigo VIC

Honey Packers and Marketers Association – TBA

National Council of Crop Pollination Association – TBA

Australian Queen Bee Breeders Association -TBA

Amateur Beekeepers Association of NSW - TBA

AUSTRALIAN HONEYBEE INDUSTRY COUNCIL INC



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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)

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

GOLD PLUS (9)

Almond Board of Australia
Australian Honey Products P/L
Baker Beekeeping P/L
Beekeeping Australia P/L
Bega Cheese Limited
Goldfield Honey Australia P/L
Lauberts, Ugis
Sterling Kershaw & Co
Woolworths

GOLD (9)

Australian Queen Bee Line P/L
Amateur Beekeepers Assoc. NSW
Browns Bees Australia P/L
Cotton, Allan & Michelle
Hampel, SJ & SM
McDonald Honey
Mid Western Fresh Honey
Weerona Apiaries
Woolfe, BD & CA
Zadow, IM & MJ

SILVER (24)

Australian Manuka Honey
Association Ltd
Australian Quality Honey (Blue
Hills Honey)
Barnes Apiaries
Bees Neez Apiaries
Boyd Apiaries P/L
Cooper, Casey
Desert Breeze Honey
Eastburn, Murray & Sandy
Gells' Honey Maryborough
Hooper Honey (Ben Hooper)
Kuyan Apiaries
Le Feuvre, Danny
Manukalife Pty Ltd
McDonald, Eileen & Bob
Michie, Robert & Raelene
Pavy, Rod
Porter, ML & DJ
R. Stephens Apiaries
Ruge Honey
South Australian Apiarists
Association
Victorian Recreational Beekeepers
Association
Warral Apiaries P/L
Wilson, Colin

BRONZE (12)

Arkadieff, Murray
Australian Honeybee P/L
Clarke, RK & KM
Cunial Beekeeping P/L
G&A Apiaries
Hampson, Terry (Daybreak Apiaries)
Heritage Honey (P. Norris)
Holscher, Luke
Ipswich & West Moreton
Beekeepers
Lutze, Brett & Lynda
Masters, Neil & Sharon
Targett, Stephen
The House of Honey

COPPER (23)

AB's Honey
Ballarat Regional Beekeepers
Bee all Natural
Bayside Beekeepers Assoc.
Clarke, Michael
Frost, Liz
Godman, Phil
Griffin, Vic
Gustare Honey Australia
Honey in the Garden
Hoskinson, HL & HM
Hum Honey
JBR Bees
Jordan, Corinne
Kennett Apiaries (SA) P/L
Nairn, Mal
Northside Beekeepers Assoc.
Petratos, Aris
Sedgwick, Peter (Honeyworks P/L)
Stokes, Peter
Trigg, Margaret
Weatherhead, Trevor & Marion
Wilson, Luke

OTHER (3)

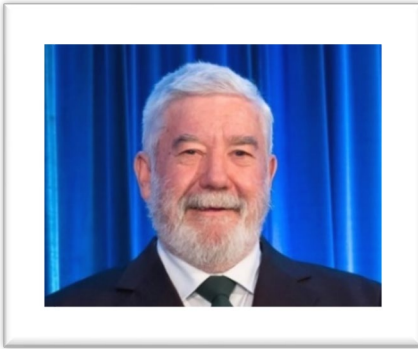
De Broun, Pauline
Honeylife Australia
Shaw, Robert

NON-PUBLISHED Value (21)

Australian Women in Beekeeping
Australian Virtual Hobby
Beekeepers Conference 2020
Bec's BeeHive Beekeeping
Supplies
Brenton, Daryl
Ecrotek
Evans, Trevor & Faye
Faithfull, Mark
Geelong Beekeepers
Gibson, David lee
Gilbert, Martin & Lorraine
Gold Coast Regional Beekeepers
Gold Amateur Beekeeping Society
Honey Australia P/L
Hampton, Tom
Hivekeepers
Lewis, Peter
Matsen, Jeff
McCormick Jenny
Moggill Honey
Mumford, Dave & Wendy
Naicol P/L
Tabulam Real Honey
The Tasmanian Honey Company
WA Pure Honey
Watson, Jim

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).

NEWS FROM THE CHAIR, Trevor Weatherhead AM



1. It was good to be able to attend the New South Wales Apiarists Association conference at Tamworth and meet old friends. Happy that we could report to the members on what AHBIC has been doing.

2. Unfortunately due to the Covid lockdown in Victoria we could not attend the Tasmanian Beekeepers Association conference in person. This was because we were transiting through Melbourne and if we had gone we would have had to quarantine in a hotel back in our home State for 14 days. We were able to join by Zoom so we were able to give the members

information about the AHBIC activities.

3. With next year being 200 years since the successful introduction of honey bees to Australia thought I should address an issue that has arisen in recent years. There are reports that the honey bees were introduced for pollination of crops. In all my research I cannot find any reference to pollination and having asked those who say this to give me a reference none have been forthcoming to date. If someone has those references then I am more than happy to change my narrative.

In the reports in the Sydney Gazette of the time there are no reports of the honey bees being brought out for pollination. There is a reference saying "in a few years, we shall be able to add honey and beeswax to our numerous productions". Also when you think of the crops grown at that time e.g. wheat, corn, oats, barley etc. They did not need honey bee pollination. The few crops that would have needed pollination would probably have been pollinated by native bees and insects.



ARE YOU A BEEKEEPER IMPACTED BY DROUGHT, BUSHFIRE AND FLOOD

The following support is available nationally through Hive Aid - funded by Rural Aid:
1 x \$500 country card (pre-paid Visa card)
Financial assistance to pay or pre-pay bills to the value of \$1000

HOW TO REGISTER

All impacted beekeepers, listed as primary producers, are encouraged to register for assistance via:

<https://faa.ruralaid.org.au/farmer-registration>

When registering for assistance, please ensure you indicate you are a beekeeper.

All applications are treated with strict confidentiality by Rural Aid.



NOTE FROM CEO, Helen Goodall

As Trevor mentioned we both attended the New South Wales Apiarists Association (NSWAA) Annual Conference from 20-21 May 2021 in Tamworth NSW. It was a great opportunity to meet so many beekeepers and I was pleased to meet Trevor for the first time face to face. Both Trevor and I will be in Southport for the QBA Conference this week. Our presentation at the state conferences provides an overview of the activities and operations of AHBIC.

AHBIC is now active on Social media.

Stay connected with AHBIC

We have officially launched an Instagram and LinkedIn account!

Follow us to receive the latest industry news, beekeeping stories, fun facts and more.

Instagram: @australianhoneybees

LinkedIn: Australian Honey Bee Industry Council

You can also find us on:

Facebook: Australian Honey Bee Industry Council

Twitter: @AustBee

Do you have some content you would like us to share? Tag us or use #AHBIC for us to see!

I was fortunate to attend World Bee Day celebrations in Canberra on Saturday the 22 May 2021. Please visit our social media pages to see the event posts. A special thanks to Cormac Farrell, head beekeeper at Parliament House who attended all the events in Canberra and provided many insights for the general public into the world of beekeeping. Thank you Cormac for all the hours you volunteer for the industry.

If you missed viewing the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations World Bee Day virtual celebrations, you can visit [here](#) to access the recording.

As a reminder the AHBIC AGM will be held face to face (Covid allowing) on Sunday 11 July 2021 in Bendigo Victoria. There will be three positions up for election as follows:

- The Deputy Chair. Stephen Fewster retires from this position and is eligible for re-election.
- Two (2) positions on the Executive. Leilani Leyland and Therese Kershaw retire and are eligible for re-election.

The Sponsorship and Exhibition prospectus for the 4th Australian Bee Congress is expected to be released in July 2021.

In recognition of the support of our Friends of AHBIC, a **pre-release** of the prospectus will be opened to the Friends of AHBIC, who are silver level and above as at the 30 June 2021. Please send your **expressions of interest** to receive a pre-release of the prospectus to:

tradeshaw@australianbeecongress.com.au



HEAR FROM OUR MEMBER – Bee Industry Council of Western Australia

It's fair to say that it has been a very poor season for WA beekeepers this year, with most trees not providing much of any nectar, which resulted in hungry bees during the summer month. Finally, the rain has settled in, and the 2020/21 beekeeping season comes to an end. The time has come to celebrate Honey Month with the Honey Festival on the 30th May and to get excited about the Conference next month. Conference tickets are selling fast. Be quick if you wish to attend in person. Online tickets for the CRC presentation are available too – find all your Conference needs on: <https://www.honeyresearch.com.au/>

A lot has been happening within BICWA over the last couple of months:

- Mikey Cernotta joined the BICWA board in April, as a member representative for WA Farmers, Beekeeping Section. He replaces the retired Matthew Colvin.
- The APC Beekeeper Committee terminates its membership to BICWA on 30th June 2021. This will leave BICWA with the three-member organisation; WAAS, WABA and WA Farmers Beekeeper Section.
- The BICWA AGM holds place on Friday 28th May 2021. We will introduce the new elected BICWA board in the next Newsletter.
- BICWA continues to work on its re-structure to transform from a volunteer lead peak body to a self-funded, professional organisation headed by a paid CEO. The new changes will also allow all registered beekeepers to become a member to industry. Current numbers indicate that about 70% of registered beekeepers do not belong to a bee organisation and therefore are not represented by industry.
- BICWA proposed to the APC Beekeepers Committee to broaden the Fee For Service (FFS) Functions, which will enable the Beekeepers Committee to contribute to sustainable industry growth. The proposal is in principle agreed to, and the process to change the functions has been initiated.

BICWA has been very busy with many level of engagements with the Department for Primary Industry and Regional Development (DPIRD), Department for Biodiversity, Conservation and Attraction (DBCA), Department for Water and Environment Regulation, AHBIC, the Chemistry Century and the Co ChemCentre and Cooperative Research Centre for Honey Bee Products (CRC HBP):

- End of March, BICWA has met with DBCA and DWER to understand changes to apiary site authority by DBCA and the clearing permit process by DWER. Site cancellation announcement sent by DBCA does not mean that sites have been lost. It indicates that DBCA can't grant apiary authority anymore. Both Departments offer support to industry and beekeepers and work collaboratively to achieve a smooth transition of historical data until mid-2021.
- BICWA met with the Forest Industry Federation of WA (FIFWA) in March on how we can get more native trees planted in our southwest which is still ongoing. We also put our point of view across to them that we don't support native logging in any form.
- 7th April 2021, BICWA has been invited to the launch of 'Boola Boornap', the place of many trees by the Noongar Land Enterprise Group(NLE). The Tree Farm based in Burling near Northam WA has already planted 1 Mio seedlings of 50 species. NLE is taking orders, large or small, from any customers looking to restore land within WA while supporting a locally owned Noongar business. This is a fantastic project to restore the native vegetation.
- ongoing engagement with the DBCA with regard to regional fire officers and beekeeper regional fire coordinators and also running through the new and exciting portal which, when finished, will make site use and management very easy for beekeepers.

As we head into winter, I wish you all a safe and warm time to wind down.

Regards,

Brendon Fewster, BICWA Chair

HEAR FROM A FRIEND OF AHBIC – Australian Manuka Honey Association



- Call for help from the Australian Manuka Honey Association

The Australian Manuka Honey Association (AMHA) has spent the last three years actively fighting the Certification Trademark lodged by the New Zealand Manuka Honey Appellation Society to use the term 'manuka'. This legal battle could see Australian families and businesses who have been producing manuka for a long time lose their livelihood.

The first hearing of our submissions in NZ is anticipated to occur in mid-June and this will be followed closely by the Intellectual Property Office hearing in the UK. The AMHA are in the critical phase of this battle and have submitted over 5,000 pages of evidence through their legal counsels in both NZ and the UK. This evidence clearly shows Australia's right to be involved in the Manuka industry and addresses the history, geography, science and commerce with respect to Manuka Honey.

The AMHA has worked tirelessly to engage Federal Ministries and the media to support the industry. Whilst this work has been completely voluntary, the cost of engaging legal counsel is significant and the AMHA need your financial support to continue this fight. The aim is to raise \$50,000 in immediate funding and ask everyone involved in the Australian honey industry to rally behind this cause and contribute to the ongoing legal fees. Contributions can be made by visiting our GoFundMe page <https://gofund.me/14a59ed3>

Your support is greatly appreciated.

Paul Callander
Chairman

PUBLICATIONS AND RESOURCES

- Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment – [Three Bees newsletter](#)
- AgriFutures Australia provides access to a wide range of publications designed to help inform decisions made by Australian rural industries, and to contribute to policy debate on rural issues of national and international significance. Please click [here](#) for recent publications for the honey bee and pollination industry. Including:
[Final report summary](#) : Investigating factors that influence chalkbrood outbreaks in Australia
- Farmers, researchers and businesses can now see levy funded research from all the Research and Development Corporations in one location. Please visit growAG.com

NEWS

- Millions of bees killed from ongoing effects of New South Wales floods [ABC Rural](#)
- Bee venom's therapeutic purposes to be explored in north coast NSW trial [ABC news](#)
- AgriFutures Honey Bee & Pollination Program request for quote: Impacts of hazard reduction burns on Honey Bee – What do we know and where to next? [Closes 16 June 2021](#)
- AgriFutures Honey Bee & Pollination Advisory Plan Chair – applications open [Closes 8 June 2021](#)

GOVERNMENT UPDATES

- For those that send bees and bee-related products, the NT's Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade have recently updated their health certificates which also clearly state requirements for sending bees and bee-related products into the NT. Please click [here](#)
- [Saudi Arabia](#)
29/04/2021 - Updates to the requirements of establishment listing for importing honey and honey products to Saudi Arabia
- Temporary relaxation of working hours for student visa holders. Please click [here](#)

EVENTS

- Australian Beekeepers Online Conference - 5 June 2021 10am – 2.30pm. 'Australian Virtual Hobby Beekeepers Conference' follow the link [Sweetness of the Land](#) . Our Chair, Trevor Weatherhead will be speaking at the event.

Apiculture NZ Conference 2021

24 - 26 June 2021

Rotorua Energy Events Centre



APICULTURE
NEW ZEALAND



ApiNZ Conference 2021 to focus on healthy future for bees and industry

- Australasian Honey Bee Conference -
June 30 & 1 July 2021
Live Stream 50+ Presentations from the Cooperative Research Centre for Honey Bee Products

AUSTRALASIAN HONEY BEE
CONFERENCE 2021

Can't Travel? Online Conference Tickets

The Cooperative Research Centre for Honey Bee Products is live streaming its 52 presentations. These talks cover all areas of honey bee research in Australia!
\$150 two-day live stream tickets (\$50 discount for students)

honeyresearch.com.au

- International Virtual Conference "Bees, Children and Health" will take place on 22-24 October 2021
[Please visit Apimondia](#)

- **The Sponsorship and Exhibition prospectus is expected to be released in July 2021.** In recognition of the support of our Friends of AHBIC, a **pre-release** of the prospectus will be opened to the Friends of AHBIC, who are silver level and above as at the 30 June 2021. Please send your **expressions of interest** of the pre-release of prospectus to: tradeshow@australianbeecongress.com.au



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Friends of AHBIC Voluntary Contribution

Please, help us help you and our industry!

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
Platinum Plus	\$60,000 & above	Silver	\$1,000 - \$1,999
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

Contribution Details

Name:

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/>

Please circle YES/NO to the following:

1. The AHBIC newsletter lists contributors

i. Publish your name YES / NO

ii. Publish the contribution amount YES / NO

2. I would like to receive a copy of the monthly newsletter YES / NO

Your contribution is gratefully appreciated, thank you