

<https://www.sunshinecoastbeekeepersinc.org.au/>

## SUNSHINE COAST BEEKEEPERS INC.

Newsletter: August 2019

Issue 101

PAGE 1

**Next Meeting:** 31st August at 'The Club House' - 43 Farrell Street, Yandina

Meetings start at 10 am (with morning tea and socializing from 9.30 am). Bring a plate.

***The club needs you to buy lots of raffle tickets! And to bring high quality raffle prizes!***

<https://www.sunshinecoastbeekeepersinc.org.au/meetings-events-calendar>

### **President's Annual Report August 2019:**

It is very satisfying to report that this has been a year of unprecedented growth with membership approaching 200.

This has been due to the establishment of our own premises as well as the success of our workshops. Both are directly attributable to the hard work of all members of the committee and sub committees.

Sponsorship in the way of grants amounting to \$70,000.00 have been provided by the Gambling Community Benefit Fund, Fairfax Stronger Communities Programme, and Sunshine Coast Council.

Other sponsors assisting the club include Burnett Beekeeping, Nuplas, Unity Water, and The Pumphouse.

Many members have also volunteered their time and professional skills to assist with the project.

The 5 established hives at the Glenview site together with the 6 developing hives in our bee enclosure will provide good experience for our new members plus boost income from honey sales.

However our major item of income remains the annual membership of \$30.00 per family. It will be a challenge for the new committee to make club activities relevant to the wide range of interests of members, so at our monthly meetings please let your views known on what you would like in the way of workshops, guest speakers, social events etc.

On behalf of the committee I would like to acknowledge the support of all members and working together we can look forward to a very successful 2020,

**Alby Taylor**

# SUNSHINE COAST BEEKEEPERS INC.

<https://www.sunshinecoastbeekeepersinc.org.au/>

Newsletter: August 2019 Issue 101

PAGE 2

## Annual General Meeting on 31st August

Members are hereby advised that the Annual General Meeting of Sunshine Coast Beekeepers Inc. will be held at the club headquarters, 43 Farrell Street, Yandina on Saturday, 31st August starting at 10.00 a.m.

The business of the meeting will be to receive the annual statements from the President and the Treasurer and to conduct elections for membership of the Committee of the club. All positions on the committee are contestable. With the exception of the Vice-President, David Lee, who has advised of his intention to step down from that role, all the remainder of the existing committee members have indicated their intention to continue in their present roles.

## What you missed if you missed the July meeting:

*Shame on me, I missed it too, so I missed a lot of important information which means that if you didn't go, you missed the information too.*

**Our bees do not thank us.**

## See you on the 31st August the AGM

### **Greetings from Bee Guru, Merv Wruck:**

At the July meeting, a lady asked how drone larvae could be found above the queen excluder. I have been thinking further about this (losing sleep) and recalled an article on my website titled "Anarchy in the beehive".

The link below should take interested members to the article:

<http://members.dodo.net.au/~mervwr1/Anarchy.htm>

### **FROM THE NEWS' DESKS:**

- **ABC: Enhanced vaccine aims to eliminate risks of allergic reactions to honey bee sting:**  
<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-07-17/vaccine-booster-could-take-the-sting-out-of-allergy-treatment/11316122>
- **Russia alarmed by large fall in bee populations—Pesticides are blamed for Russia's mass bee deaths, while French honey production is also down.**  
<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-49047402>
- **Intensive' beekeeping not to blame for common bee diseases:**  
<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2019/07/190717084246.htm>
- **Breeders toughen up bees to resist deadly mites:**  
<https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2019/07/breeders-toughen-bees-resist-deadly-mites>

Please email links to [suzyfurness@gmail.com](mailto:suzyfurness@gmail.com)

### **Dad joke:**

I went into a pet shop and asked for twelve bees. The shopkeeper counted out thirteen and handed them over.

"You've given me one too many." "That one is a freebie."

# SUNSHINE COAST BEEKEEPERS INC.

<https://www.sunshinecoastbeekeepersinc.org.au/>

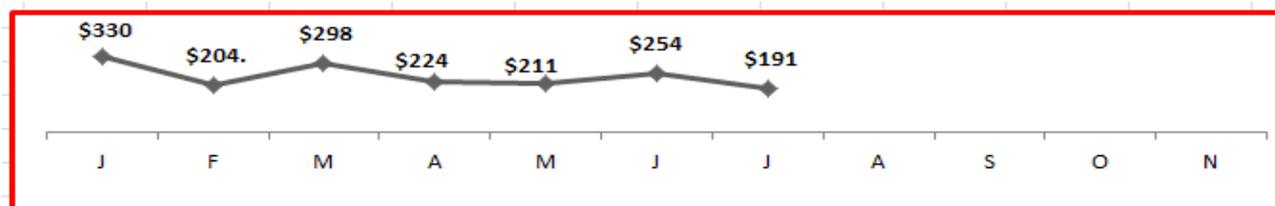
Newsletter: August 2019 Issue 101

PAGE 3

**RAFFLE: We had a not so good raffle result for July—\$191**

**Please contribute quality items for the August meeting's raffle.**

**The Club needs you to buy lots of tickets!**



## **Members' Stuff:**

**Swarms:** If you find a swarm: Contact Jeff Ross (ph. 0429 960 300, Beerwah) or Alby Taylor (0418 882 282, Woombye) New bees are needed to populate the Club's hives.

*Do **you** have something you wish to communicate to other members? This could be local or global news; items to sell, buy or give away; photos or news from your apiary.*

*This newsletter is sent out each month. It reaches all members: email [suzyfurness@gmail.com](mailto:suzyfurness@gmail.com)*

**Or go to the Sunshine Coast Beekeepers Website forum:**

<https://www.sunshinecoastbeekeepersinc.org.au/forum>

## **Honey Selling Register:**

The club is setting up a register of members who would like the fact that they sell honey privately. Send your details to Bill Spencer [secretarysbees@gmail.com](mailto:secretarysbees@gmail.com) or phone him on 0419 149 947

**Bee Buddy Register:** For those members who would like to have a mentor, and those members happy to be members. <https://www.sunshinecoastbeekeepersinc.org.au/beebuddies>

Contact Bill Spencer: [secretarysbees@gmail.com](mailto:secretarysbees@gmail.com)

**Check Out our Website:** <https://www.sunshinecoastbeekeepersinc.org.au/>

Many of our members spend time on-line looking for beekeeping information. Our website shows the best of the best links that we can find.

This saves members lots of time. It is also a useful and convenient foundation for communications between Club members. Our Club Executive continually adds useful information.

**Check Out our Facebook Page:**

[https://www.facebook.com/pg/sunshinecoastbeekeepersaustralia/posts/?ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/pg/sunshinecoastbeekeepersaustralia/posts/?ref=page_internal)

**Membership Renewal due 31st May (\$30.00)** Easy to do it now via direct deposit:

**Name of our Account:** Sunshine Coast Beekeepers Inc.

**BSB** 633 000 **Account no:** 163379555 (Your name is the reference.)

## **The next beekeeping course is:**

Saturday 14th September 2019 from 9 am to 2 pm.

**Where:** 43 Farrell Street, Yandina.

**BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL**

To book, left click on: <https://www.sunshinecoastbeekeepersinc.org.au/workshops>

## Know someone who is interested in bees?

## Why not forward this newsletter to them?

### **THE FIRST WORD** by **Alice Workman**

(The Weekend Australian - Saturday, 10 Aug 2019 - Page 66)

“Did you know that you can send live bees in the mail?

It sounds like a biosecurity hazard but despite their bottoms being designed to give you a bad day, bees are apparently among the simplest live animals to post.

Not only can they be ordered online but bees can survive being sent great lengths interstate and overseas.

The head beekeeper at Parliament House is currently waiting on a shipment of Eastern European Carniolan Queen bees from Slovenia for its four hives.

Officially, Australia Post’s Dangerous and Prohibited Goods and Packaging Guide rules allow live bees, leeches, silkworms, silkworm eggs and other harmless insects to be sent in ventilated boxes. It’s amazing how many alive things you can post. One regular live mailer told me you can send crickets, dung beetles, tarantulas, worms, even frogs. Posties also have to deal with parasites and destroyers of noxious insects intended for critter control being shipped across the country. But you can’t just throw the bees in an envelope and poke a few holes. Wood or plastic cages are used for domestic travel. The cages are wrapped in cardboard to help insulate them from heat or cold. Then they’re put in an express post bag with a bright green sticker warning in all capitals: “Live bees, no sun, no spray, deliver quickly.” That said, things can and do go wrong. Fifteen queen and 90 worker bees died while being express posted from Brisbane to Townsville during the February heatwave last year. Unfortunately for beekeepers, Australia Post isn’t liable if they die en route, as bees are not legally covered under the Animal Care and Protection Act. Hence why it’s a bit trickier for international mail. Live bees need a non-pressurised cargo hold with snacks. There’s typically three weeks’ supply of a honey, icing sugar mix called Queen Bee candy. Delicious!

Bees are also surprisingly resilient. The hives on the roof of Notre Dame not only survived but thrived after the devastating fire that ravaged the 800-year-old cathedral in May.

The three colonies were lower than the main roof and the 19th-century spire that burned and collapsed, so beekeepers were unsure if the nearly 180,000 bees would survive. And how they did is rather fascinating.

While other species flee when threatened by fire, European bees remain behind and as they don’t have lungs they weren’t at risk of smoke inhalation .

When bees sense fire they gorge themselves on honey and stay to protect their Queen. The carbon dioxide puts them in a drunk-like state and they eventually go to sleep.

If the wax doesn’t melt and kill them, bees tend to survive.

But back at the Parliament House apiary, the native stingless bees that normally reside in Speaker Tony Smith’s courtyard have been shipped to NSW for a winter holiday. Like many new Canberrans the tropical bees can’t stand the frost. So, they spend April to September at NSW Government House in Sydney where former governor and current Governor-General David Hurley has been harnessing his amateur beekeeping skills.

But the reason for the upcoming Slovenian bee plane trip is because the Parliament House bees are quite good at leadership coups.”

# SUNSHINE COAST BEEKEEPERS INC.

<https://www.sunshinecoastbeekeepersinc.org.au/>

Newsletter: August 2019

Issue 101

PAGE 5

## Greg Malouf's steamed pudding

2 blood oranges

200 g orange marmalade

180 g golden syrup or **honey** or light treacle

150 g self-raising flour

75 g ground almonds

75 g golden caster sugar

1 teaspoon bicarbonate of soda

Seeds from 22 cardamom pods, ground (or a generous ½ teaspoon ground cardamom)

195 g eggs (about 3), lightly beaten

200 g Greek-style yoghurt

150 g unsalted butter, melted, plus extra for greasing

75 g mild **honey**

Chilled cream or custard, to serve

Preheat the oven to 160° C (fan) or 180° C. Liberally butter the dariole moulds or pudding basins. Finely zest the oranges and mix the zest together with 2 tablespoons of the marmalade. Set aside. With a sharp serrated knife, remove the remaining skin and all traces of pith from the oranges. Cut the oranges into fairly thick slices, crossways. Select eight that will fit snugly into the base of the moulds. Put 1 tablespoon each of the marmalade and golden syrup into the prepared moulds and arrange the orange slices on top.

In a large mixing bowl, combine the flour, ground almonds, sugar, bicarb and cardamom. Mix together evenly. Add the eggs, yoghurt, butter, honey and reserved marmalade and beat until evenly incorporated. Spoon the batter into eight 180 ml metal or heatproof plastic dariole moulds or small pudding basins to about three-quarters full, then sit them in a deep roasting tin.

Pour hot water into the tin, to come halfway up the sides of the moulds. Bake for 20-25 minutes. Insert a fine skewer and if it comes out clean, they are ready. If the moulds are not metal you may find they take longer, in which case return them to the oven and test at 10-minute intervals.

Remove the puddings from the oven and leave them in the water bath for 5 minutes. Turn out onto dessert plates and serve with chilled cream or custard. **Serves 8**

*Edited extract from Sugar: Desserts and sweets from the modern Middle East by Greg & Lucy Malouf (Hardie Grant Books, \$65).*

## 2019 – 2020

### Executive and Committee

<b>President:</b>	Alby Taylor	presidentsbees@gmail.com	ph. 0418 882 282
<b>Vice President:</b>	David Lee	vicepresidentsbees@gmail.com	ph. 0414 757 220
<b>Secretary:</b>	Bill Spencer	secretarysbees@gmail.com	ph. 0419 149 947
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Chris Johnson	treasurersbees@gmail.com	ph. 0411 415 527
<b>Librarian:</b>	Lyndall Pettett	lyndall_pettett@hotmail.com	
<b>Publicity:</b>	Katie Livock	infosbees@gmail.com	ph. 0414 843 342
<b>F'book/Website:</b>	Frank Vos	frank_vos@optusnet.com.au	ph. 0412 066 546
<b>Newsletter:</b>	Suzy Furness	suzyfurness@gmail.com	

**Disclaimer** – the views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of authors and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the Sunshine Coast Beekeepers Group. The SCBG accepts no liability for the consequences of any actions taken on the basis of the information provided in this newsletter.