

Valley Bees Monthly Meeting Minutes for February 2019 - #96

Sunday 10th February, Honeybee Farm.

Welcome: Eric opened the meeting at 1-35pm with a welcome to all. No new members present.

Visitors: Kerian Lawler from Amamoor

Apologies: Glenbo, Skaidra, Bill MacIntosh, Victor & Marianne, Michael, Tom Codde, Peter and Sandra Wood, Ewan and Yvonne, Barbara Sullivan, Kayle Findlay, John and Veronica.

Eric: Thanks to Pauline for stepping in for him in Dec, and Sara for taking over at short notice to take today's minutes.

Treasurer's Report from Jeanne:

MRCCC account

\$2614.84 from last meeting

One new member \$50.

Total = \$2664.84

Bendigo Bank

\$2686.41 from last meeting

Deposits \$265. Entry fees \$150. Books 65., Membership \$50.

Withdrawals: \$ 324.47: Raffle \$15. Venue hire \$50. Membership MRCC \$50. Christmas Lunch \$187.47, Lions Cake Raffle \$22.

Total = \$2,627.37

Combined total \$5291.78

Sara moved treasurers report be passed, Scott 2nd and passed by membership.

Minutes were sent out and read by membership:

Pauline moved that Minutes have been read and passed. Jeanne 2nd and Passed by membership.

Phil's Honeybee Farm Report

Workshop on 19th. Took 10 ideals and 17 full frames. All hives strong and producing well. 1st one was full of beetle but bees handled well. Flow hive doing well. Got 5 frames from that one. #7 is new swarm hive and was strong enough to put a top box on. Demonstration hive of Vic's was pretty strong and took 2 frames from that one. All in all a good showing from bees. Well done bees.

Derek's Native Bee Report

Robyn reported: This morning was held here at Honey Bee Farm. Built two solitary bee hotels and they are for here. About 200ml wide nesting boxes. Using the drill press to make holes in timber and had discussion about keeping native bees. 19 people here. All workshops take an enormous amount of effort. The people who hold the native bee workshops create a topic for the day. Derek set up today's workshop. Bruce provided timber. Recognise the effort. While the honey bee workshops work at looking into hives and taking honey, native bee workshops have a broader scope of topics. Thank you Derek for your effort. Lovely morning and great discussions.

Vic's Landcare Report

Landcare has had 2 workshop days since our last meeting. January was interesting as we were having trouble keeping nucs and keeping queens. We had 2 nucs that didn't have queens. Put them in last time. One double hive had good queen and doing well. The other one which was flow hive was total slime-out. Took frames out and pressure washed others. Good nuc is now in the cleaned up flow hive. All went home with honey. Feb. About 7 turned up. There are always new people and it was a good day for it. Keen new beekeepers. Want info and want to learn. All hives were healthy. Abandoned the small nuc that failed to raise a queen. Had 3 attempts and have now left it be. Not much honey flow now and won't be able to take as much honey. Good time to re-queen hives at the moment as after the next couple of months you won't be able to get queens.

Reports from Eric:

Stingless hive in underground tap box. Glenbo and Vic may remove but haven't set up a date at the moment.

Scott's hives:

Has had a lot of support from many people. Bruce has been a great deal of help and has done a tremendous amount of work on his behalf, because of his injury. Vic put in one long day and came back next day to inspect hives. Scott was behind tree and taking notes and bees came pouring out and stung Scott many, many times. Had to crawl back to the house and got stung about 30 times. Seriously aggressive hive. Have re-queened the hive. Bruce was stung and discovered that he is allergic. Hopefully they have sorted out the aggression. Kevin in Ridgewood has a parrot box where bees have moved in. Scott drove out to see what he could do to save and box the bees. Would like to put request for anyone to go with him to pull box down and get bees in good box. When he went to a workshop a few weeks ago, Mark said he has a honey press for use in the top-bar hives that Scott would like Valley Bees to purchase for the "Athol Craig Honey Room". Eric noted that the problem is spreading of disease through sharing equipment.

Discussion about sterilization of equipment. Was decided that we all need to be responsible for our own equipment. Scott is going down to Brisbane to pick up equipment, if anyone wants to tag along to share costs. Discussed top bar workshop in the future. We are looking forward to setting up a workshop. Scott suggested the first Saturday in March. Vic noted that is the date for Landcare workshop. Maybe 2nd Saturday. Eric asked for support for Scott's workshop and support for the top-bar hive method of beekeeping, as Valley Bees as a club is supportive of all types of bees. Will try to work out a date for the workshop and will let us know.

Eric: Regarding an item from last meeting minutes. "Honeybee farm has been getting lots of calls for swarm pick up." Club needs to have list of members who are willing to catch hives. Understanding that whoever collects the swarm, will be able to keep hive.

Pauline: noted that catching hives carries the risk of disease as well.

Athol: Had a swarm put into an empty box and was full of bees and full of AFB.

Rob Mallett: Also has had 2 swarm hives that he had to burn because of disease.

When a swarm is captured you must set up a quarantine area to make sure they are free of disease before you place them in with your hives.

Jeanne: Anyone interested give her an email and she will make a list of interested members.

Athol: Issues to bring up:

1. An explanation regarding the cancellation of January meeting. The executive members were unaware that this venue wasn't available until the Friday before the meeting. Explored other venues but decided to cancel as the best option.
2. Show society has made an offer for the club to set up a native bee display at the Gympie Show. Is it offered free? And we need to work out some details with QBA. Leave that until next month and he will investigate the fee and what will it entail. We will be obligated to man it for the 3 days.
3. In minutes of Dec meeting, the issue of Range Bees funds was deferred to the January meeting. The club as a whole failed to pick up that Dianne Clarke made the request for the Range Bees funds to be used solely for solitary bees. The executive committee had a meeting on Thursday and drafted a letter to send to Dianne to settle this matter. Pauline read the letter. (Attached). As a footnote to the letter to be sent to Dianne, "Athol will move in the Feb meeting that we now transfer \$1769 into a separate account at MRCCC, for Solitary Bee education and workshops etc." Discussion about how to deal with the \$1,769 that was given into the Valley Bees account by Range Bees. Athol moved that the letter be approved and the money be transferred. Vic 2nd and passed by members.
4. Also read the email from Chris Fuller about the Singapore visit regarding solitary bees.

Eric: Read a letter from Capilano regarding the new owners. They announced that the Allowrie brand no longer be a Capilano brand and will be taken off shelves. (letter attached).
March meeting will be chaired by Pauline. Eric and Jeanne will go to the Currumbin Bee "Open Day". He had a discussion with the Currumbin Club about the way we handle our volunteers etc. Proposed that we enter honey into their competition. Only need one jar. Will need to have entries to Eric one week prior to next month's meeting.

Pauline: Noted that the Gympie Show is coming up and we need to start preparing for that as well.

Eric: At next meeting, maybe we can discuss what direction members would like Valley Bees to continue in. Planning for the coming year.

Open Discussion:

Phil: Has anything been decided about the native bee display at Kandanga Information Centre? Where can it be put in Kandanga? They want us to take the whole stump, not just the hive. Pauline will have a look and give suggestions as to what we will do.

Athol: has brought a propolis mat to show us. Bees that produce excess propolis are healthier. Discussion about propolis. Super antibiotic.

**Meeting closed at 3:00pm • Raffle: Blue A41 Kaye, E94 Keiran Lawler
But we're all winners, as beekeepers, aren't we?**

Note Valley Bees Bee Registration # V108.

Our Committee:

Chair • Eric Jordan • jeanneanderic@live.com.au

Vice Chair • Pauline Alexander • palmsalt234@gmail.com

Treasurer • Jeanne Jordan • jeanneanderic@live.com.au

Media and Design • Glenbo Craig • glenbo@live.com.au

Members Secretary • Jeanne Jordan • jeanneanderic@live.com.au

Honeybee Sessions Landcare • Vic Finney • vicfinney43@gmail.com

Honeybee Sessions Honeybee Cottages • Phil Brown • info@honeybeefarm.com.au

Native Bee Sessions • Derek Cooper • dcooper@bigpond.com

Flow Hive 'Unique Share Link' • Maree and Mark Hannon • flowvalleybees2@gmail.com

Patron • Athol Craig • glenbo@live.com.au

INSPIRED



Dianne Clarke
Monday 25 February, 2019

Dianne,

The Valley Bees policy is to foster the interests of the community in all types of bees. The money in our

• Honey Bees • Stingless Bees • Solitary Bees • Pollination • Habitat



[Home](#) / [News](#)

Capilano's Parent Company Retire Allowrie Honey Brand

30/01/2019

The new owners of Capilano Honey Ltd (CHL) have today announced that the company's Allowrie honey brand will be retired from supermarket shelves, and the business will begin transitioning out of the brand in a first step on the journey to making all honey products 100% Australian, excluding some active Manuka honey sourced from New Zealand.

"While it is always sad to see a brand removed from sale at our request, CHL has always been transparent that when Australian honey production and sustainable stock levels returned, we would cease the importation of honey, and that is what we are doing," Dr Ben McKee, the Chief Executive of CHL said today.

The timing of the decision reflects the improvements in Australian honey production over recent seasons and the resulting gains in Australian honey inventory, which has reduced the need for the importation of honey to buffer supply.

"CHL is a company that has been built on the support of Australian beekeepers for generations, and we are proud to promote their great Australian honey all around the world."

"Capilano branded honey is, and will always remain, our 100% Australian pure honey offer in every market in which we operate. The decision to retire the Allowrie honey brand will allow greater clarity for consumers of our pure Australian honey offer in the market," Dr McKee said.

CHL was recently purchased by a private equity Consortium and the company remains majority Australian owned, with majority shareholders Wroxby Pty Ltd, Wattle Hill RHC and ROC Capital Pty Ltd. The new owners have also confirmed today that the existing investment in enhanced robust honey adulteration testing, which covers every single batch of honey sold on retail shelves, will be an on-going measure to reassure consumers of the quality of the honey products produced by the company.

To the best of our knowledge, CHL is the only honey packer in Australia that undertakes this level of testing on every batch, which gives consumers surety that our products are only 100% pure honey, and the best quality in the market.

"It is pleasing to see that our new owners have been true to their word, as we focus our efforts to support Australian beekeepers, the Australian honey industry and marketing Australian honey products worldwide," Dr McKee said.