

## Monthly Newsletter

Issue 198 July 2021

### Upcoming Events and Notices

**This Club Day: 3<sup>rd</sup> July**

**Next Club Day: 7<sup>th</sup> August**

#### Whareora Hall 10.00am

What to bring:

- Your **Membership card** to show at the door
- **Cash** for the produce table
- **Produce** for the produce table
- **Library books** you have borrowed
- **Bee suit** (Club has some for members to use also)

Directions:

From SH1, turn off to *Kensington*. Turn left onto *Mill Road*, then right at *Whareora Road*. Keep on this road until it joins *Pataua North Road* and carry on for a few more minutes.

The hall is on the right. Please **do not** park on the road, use the paddock adjacent to the Hall when the car park is full.

### Are you the next Club President or Vice President?

We are looking for nominations for these roles, please read the notice to members on the next page.



#### A HUGE THANK YOU TO.....

**Bob Samson** for his outstanding work in mowing the club apiary regularly.

**David Pullen, David Herbert and Mike Fox** for their regular contributions to "What's happening in our hive's" each club day.

#### Club Day Duty Roster

<b>Set Up Hall From 9am</b>	Ava
<b>Set up in Kitchen 9am and Set up Lunch</b>	Muriel
<b>Wash up Kitchen from Lunch</b>	Muriel
<b>Pack up / Clean Hall From 12-30</b>	Vince

All these jobs are easy and require very little time and effort, please sign up on the roster at Club Day. A big "THANK YOU" for your help.

## For the urgent attention and consideration of all members

At the recent AGM, held on 5<sup>th</sup> June no nominations were put forward for President and Vice-President for the election of officers.

Paul Martin and David Pullen are resigning from these positions, **this means that the club will be in breach of their constitution without a President and Vice-President.**

The committee is urging members to put their names forward to help keep the club alive.

Our club is in a very strong position now, as is Northland Pure Honey and the extraction plant. If we do not have anyone put their name forward then the only option is to put the club into recess, this would be a real shame.

We will continue to run club days for the next month or two, but if we do not receive any nominations by 3<sup>rd</sup> July then the committee will start the process of putting the club into recess.

Bear in mind that the President does not have to stand up and speak to the whole club each club day. Do not worry if you only have 1 or 2 hives, so do lots of us. We need people with energy, ideas and enthusiasm as well as an ability to organise things well.

We also need members willing to take on board smaller jobs regularly (e.g., keeping the website up to date, coordinating the set-up of the hall, setting up the AV equipment in the hall each month, organizing guest speakers 4 times a year) as this would reduce the load for the President and Vice President.

Feel free to nominate yourself for any of the roles so that we can ensure that the Whangarei Bee Club continues to be one of the best bee clubs in New Zealand.  
email: [wbccommunication@gmail.com](mailto:wbccommunication@gmail.com)

Thank you,  
WBC Committee

# News from last Club Day

## Club Day Summary 5 June 2021

The initial focus of this club day was our AGM.

### AGM

Paul chaired the AGM which started at 10-10 and finished at 10-35am. Barbara presented the Treasurer's report for WBC and NPH. Paul presented the President's report.

The election of officers was adjourned as there were no nominations for President and Vice President. Paul pointed out that according to the 'Management of the Society', section 7.1, we must have a President and Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer plus two other committee members (not less than six persons).

The rest of the committee remained the same. Sarah and Pieter Kalis and Leslie Pocklington were confirmed as committee members. Richard Osbourne (not present) may eventually be seconded onto the committee.

### Nic Nacs

Bryce showed us the hive base he made with its stainless mesh covering which he uses for all his hives, all year round. He buys the mesh from a supplier advertising in the Beekeeper. The air flow through the mesh keeps the hive drier. The base is >40mm to stop the varroa that fall through the mesh from jumping back into the hive.

Paul showed us an 8-hole hive top mat (4 holes each end). Refer to Ricky Leahy for details of why you would use this – drying out supers, feeding raw sugar, storing extra super on top, uniting bees, extra insulation in winter.

### Research into hive pest control

Brandon Johnson-Roughton visited and gave an outline of his research aim. He is currently trying to develop a system that will enable monitoring and data collection with the possibility of defending hives from pest threats.

For example, controlling wasps or even mites with no use of chemicals by using AI (artificial intelligence) and IoT (Internet of Things) technologies to research varroa control in hives, similar to what is happening in Australia – to be able to detect, monitor and remove varroa mites.

He is just starting his research. We wish him well.

### David & David

David P hives are doing well – good late summer weather so far. He has left  $\geq 3$  frames of honey per hive. Has only seen varroa in 3 out of 70 hives checked. Still using oxalic acid paper towels.

Has left queen excluders on because the hives are so strong. He is not feeding at this stage. Queen has stopped laying in some hives. After the shortest day, the queen should start laying again. Make sure there is free comb available for new brood i.e. not all honey.

If the queen is still there you will see a clean patch of comb where the brood should be, for her to lay in. Initially the hive will be noisier than normal if queenless, and over time will go quiet. Dark queens (Carniolans) are more likely to shut down over winter.

If you have a queenless hive you could add a capped brood frame from another hive to keep the numbers up, or alternatively unite it with a 'queen right' hive and then split it off in Spring (using a dividing paper and/or aerosol to mask the new bee smell). Either way do not leave it queenless on its own in the meantime.

## News from last Club Day (continued)

Ant and/or cockroach control:

- Sprinkle cornflower on the top board
- Or cinnamon
- Or lavender oil
- Or diatomaceous earth
- Or bay leaves

Reduce entrances now to avoid robbing by wasps and other bees. Wasps are still an autumn / winter problem in some areas. They are now trialling a new sugar-based wasp killer in Nelson.

Mike brought in a flowering tutu branch to show us so we can be on the lookout for the tutu bush come summer. In case you have not heard of it, Tutu is the classic poisonous plant of New Zealand. It is a widely distributed native species found throughout the country, particularly along stream banks and in regenerating native bush. Poisoning is usually through eating the seeds, berries, or poisonous honey.

**July Club-day: Preparing your hives for Spring.**

### Farmlands Card

Just a reminder that Whangarei Bee Club is a shareholder at Farmlands, so all members get the shareholder discount on all their products - not just bee related items.

You will need to show your WBC membership card and quote our Farmlands Account Number: 610123531

They currently stock 400mL square jars and lids

### AFB Recognition Courses - NORTHLAND

*If you have recently attended (or are already registered to attend) an AFB Recognition course or refresher, please disregard this email.*

#### Dates & locations of Northland Courses:

**Waipu** - Sunday 4 July, 9am - Waipu Primary School – Waipu  
**Kaitiā** - Saturday 21 August, 9am - Christian Fellowship - Pukepoto Road  
**Kerikeri** - Saturday 18 September, 9am - Northtec Kerikeri campus  
**Whangarei** - Saturday 2 October, 9am - McKay Stadium

American foulbrood is caused by spore-forming bacteria and is the most widespread and destructive of the bee brood diseases. Learning how to recognise American foulbrood and its symptoms is essential knowledge for every beekeeper to know.

Our course will teach you how to:

- recognize AFB symptoms
- inspect a hive for AFB
- prevent AFB from spreading
- collect brood cell and bee samples for testing, and
- effectively destroy any AFB infected hives.

There is a test at the end of the course comprising of 25 questions (please note we have our test available in Maori, Korean, Filipino and Mandarin (Simplified Chinese). Where possible, an infected AFB frame will be available for beekeepers to see symptoms of AFB firsthand.

Register [HERE](#) if interested

### AFB checks

Trevor Clifton is available (0.72 cents/km and \$20 / hive).

Email: [puwerahoney@gmail.com](mailto:puwerahoney@gmail.com)

Ph: 4329511 or 0274330155

**Below is the recipe for Honey Ice Cream from member Alannah Vinson. This was the "People's Choice Award in the honey competition back in April**

This recipe requires an ice cream maker but could be adapted or those who do not have one.

Ingredients:

1 cup Whole milk	3/4 cup honey
2 cups cream	pinch of salt
1 teaspoon vanilla	6 egg yolks

#### Directions:

1. Warm the milk, honey, cream, & salt in a medium saucepan over a low heat, stirring until the honey is dissolved. Add the vanilla. Remove from the heat and let it steep at room temperature for 30 minutes. Have a quick taste of mixture and honey more honey if desired.

2. Whisk the egg yolks in a medium bowl. Slowly pour the warmed milk mixture into the egg yolks, whisking constantly. Scrape the mixture back into the saucepan.

3. Place the saucepan over a medium heat and stir constantly with a rubber spatula, being sure to scrape the bottom of the pan as you stir, until the mixture thickens and coats the back of the spatula. This will take a few minutes.

The mixture should reach 80 degrees on an instant-read digital thermometer (over 83 degrees the mixture may split)

4. Stir occasionally until the mixture is cool. Once cool, transfer the custard to your ice cream maker according to manufacturer's instructions. Transfer to a freezer-safe container and store in the freezer.



# APICULTURE NEW ZEALAND

**NZ CERTIFICATE IN APICULTURE**  
**LEVEL 3 - PART TIME**

- Includes 20 workshops over 40 weeks
- Seasonal bee keeping
- Bee husbandry, anatomy and physiology
- Construction of beehives
- Disease management (incl DECA study)

**ENROL NOW**  
\*ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA APPLIES

LAND BASED TRAINING  
Providing Better Employment Opportunities

## Major sting for beekeepers

**A mystery disease is reportedly currently ravaging parts of the North Island bee population with reports of up to 80% death rates in some hives.**

It is understood the problem is widespread throughout much of the North Island, with beekeepers as far south as Wellington reporting issues - although most appear to be in Waikato, Bay of Plenty and central North Island regions

Read more [HERE](#)



## **Mike Fox: Selling Bees, Queens and Honey**

Get your order in early for next season's queens

0211651283 or 094396001

**Danny Vendt** may still have mated Queens for sale. Pre orders can be picked up from Pat at the hall on club day.

**Ph Danny 027 487 9802**

## **Level 3 Certificate in Apiculture (see flyer left)**

Jonny Long (a club member) will be teaching this Apiculture course at Barge Park in Maunu starting late July/early August.

The course is currently very popular with hobbyist beekeepers. It is normally quite expensive to do the course, but at the current time it is 'fees free'. It is run through "Land Based Training" and includes the 3 essential NZ beekeeping books - Practical Beekeeping in NZ, AFB Yellow book, and green Varroa book.

More information and how to register [HERE](#).

Jonny has been beekeeping for nearly 40 years - since he was 14 years old. He has worked commercially in the past in Queen Rearing. He is currently an AP2 with the AFB PMP, as well as with AssureQuality doing the Exotics Surveillance Programme. This is his 2nd year teaching this course. He recently finished teaching my inaugural course at AUT North Shore.

**Bee Basics** – Thank you to member Brian Angliss for compiling some interesting facts for beginning beekeepers. You can find it on the Facebook page and on the [WBC Resources page](#), you will need to log in to access it.



# Financial Statement

## Whangarei Bee Club Incorporation

Opening Bank Balances as at 20 May 21

Operating Account	24,356.95
Savings Account	404.99
Total Funds at 20th May 21	24,761.94

### Plus Income From

Membership Fees-New	110.00
Renew Membership	4,870.00
IRD Refund	163.08
	5,143.08
	29,905.02

### Less Expenditure

Bank Fees	2.00
Coastal Accounting - Review	747.50
Web Site - OnLine designs	42.55
Whareora Hall Hire	80.00
Pizza's & Milk, Biscuits, Coffee,	183.57
Engraving Systems - Cup & Shield	45.40
	1,101.02
Total Balance at at 20th May 2021	28,804.00

### Made up of

Operating Account	28,399.01
Savings Account	404.99

# Other News and websites to check out

[Apiarist' Advocate June 2021](#)

['Irritation' over bees in urban areas could see hive numbers in Auckland backyards limited](#)

['Over the top': Backlash against TikTok's bee lady not justified, say bee experts](#)

[TikTok Lady saving bees](#)

[Focus turns to non-mānuka honeys at beekeepers conference](#)

[Group battling to trademark manuka seeking more funds for legal costs](#)

## Call for contributions

All you budding writers out there, we are looking for contributions to the monthly newsletter. It can be a one-off article or an ongoing piece. If you have something to add, then please email it to [wbccommunication@gmail.com](mailto:wbccommunication@gmail.com)



Thanks to all contributors of the Newsletter



Thanks to our sponsors for their support of the Honey Competition at Whangarei Bee Club:

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