



Monthly Newsletter

Issue 205 March 2022

Upcoming Events and Notices

This Club Day: 5th March

Next Club Day: 2nd April

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.

March Club Day:

Reduced day with no pizza lunch.

Technical training session in the hives

[AFB Recognition Courses](#)

Under the traffic light system, 2022 AFB Recognition Courses will be run under a vaccine mandate. Proof of vaccination will be required.

This list will be updated as more courses are confirmed. Our online AFB Recognition Course (plus test) is being developed and will be available mid-2022. We will advise all beekeepers when it is ready to accept registrations.

KERIKERI – Saturday 21 May, 10am – venue TBC
other dates for Northland are yet to be set

Click on title to go to website link

Hive Sites available at Whananaki South

Andrew Marks – 0272 459 335

Club Day Duty Roster

Set Up Hall From 9am	If you arrive before 10am, please help set up
Set up in Kitchen 9am	Please help when you arrive
Pack up / Clean Hall From 11-30	Everyone to help out

All of 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.

News from last Club Day

Trevor introduced Peter Boutelje of [Boutelje Products](#) he gave a very entertaining talk on his experiences over 50 years of beekeeping.

Peter talked about his time in South Africa and the challenges of beekeeping there. He had to contend with hive robbers as well as extremes of weather.

He had to travel great distances to transport supers and then get the supers back to Johannesburg where he lived and processed the boxes to extract honey.

He experienced a variety of plants in different areas of south Africa that were beneficial to beekeeping. The aloe plant grows where farmers had overgrazed the land and he found they are great plants to help build up hives. Orange blossoms in the lower veldt and after this flowered, he would move hives to areas with kiwi fruit.

He made his own extraction equipment out of plastic and stainless steel and developed it over the years to the business he has now. When he and his family moved to New Zealand he continued to make and develop his honey extraction equipment.

Club Notifications

Trevor thanked Sarah for mowing the grass around the hives.

Trevor resigned as Club President, sharing with the members that his health is not great. He asked if someone else could step in to fill this role. Club members thanked Trevor for his work and wish him all the very best. Trevor is still able to do AFB checks and members can call him on 0274330155

We are really pleased to announce that Nick Watkins is joining the Bee Club committee and is stepping up to run club days. Many of you will be familiar with Nick already as he has imparted some of his extensive knowledge within previous club days and during hive time. The March club day has come up fast, so to help Nick 'get his feet under the table' first, we plan to run a reduced club day this month. The focus will be on hive time, and an in-depth autumn training session out at the hives.

As always things will kick off at 10am, heading out to the hives soon after, and we expect things to be wrapped up probably by around 11.30am; so we won't have pizzas this month.

From April onwards we will return to a normal length club day programme. So bring along your bee suit (if you want one), and your questions, and be ready for a technical training session in the hives on Saturday 5th March.

We look forward to seeing you there.

We also still need more people to join the committee to help run the club and the honey extraction plant. If you have a passion for bees and believe in the essential service which Bee Clubs serve the local community, then we need your help to keep our club running. The Whangarei Bee Club is looked up to by beekeepers New Zealand wide, and we need your help to script the next chapter in its existence.

Honey, Used for Centuries to Heal and Hydrate, Is in Demand Once Again

A new wave of beauty products, from hair oils to hand creams, are harnessing the benefits of this age-old natural remedy. By Megan Bradley Feb. 9, 2022

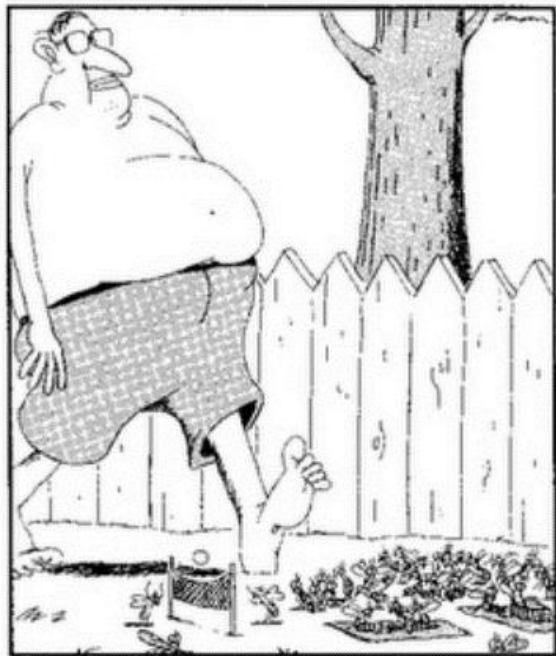
For all its syrupy sweetness, honey is one of nature's most hard-working creations; rich with antioxidants, it is both a powerful humectant, meaning it's able to draw and seal in moisture, and packed with potent antibacterial compounds. Perhaps unsurprisingly, then, it has long been prized for its curative and beautifying properties: It's listed in recipes for healing ointments that were carved into clay tablets by the ancient Sumerians around 2000 B.C. (and later discovered in what is now Iraq). Cleopatra is said to have bathed regularly in milk infused with the golden liquid. And women in Ming dynasty-era China used it to clear blemishes.

In recent years, despite scientific advancements in skin care, honey has not only maintained but increased its prominence in our regimens. Claire Marin, a beekeeper and the owner of Catskill Provisions, a honey-focused food and spirits company based in upstate New York, has found that her customers often use the brand's two seasonal varieties of the substance — both harvested in the Catskills, the darker fall batch flavoured with maple and chestnut from the bees' diets, and the spring version distinguished by lighter notes of clover and apple — as they would a moisturizer, applying it to their hands and face in the dry months of winter. (It's a trick Marin learned herself while growing

up in Spain, where, she says, "honey is a part of everyday life.") And as the beauty industry shifts further toward natural and environmentally minded practices, hair and skin-care brands are also increasingly turning to honey as an effective regenerative ingredient. "Bees are at the core of who we are and what we do," says Negin Mirsalehi, who founded the Netherlands-based line Gisou in 2013. Her father, a fifth-generation apiarist, started the family's bee garden, a large collection of hives, in Almere in the 1970s. "Growing up," Mirsalehi says, "we used our harvest for everything from healing our cuts and scrapes to soothing our sore throats and nourishing our hair." Today, it supplies all the honey for Gisou's formulas, including its Honey-Infused Hair Oil (\$87), which blends the ingredient with coconut and sweet almond oil, and was adapted from Mirsalehi's mother's recipe.

When it comes to skin care, honey's purported benefits are equally impressive. Last year, new findings about the substance's capacity for treating wounds inspired the French cosmetics company Guerlain to launch its Bee Lab, a platform dedicated to researching the insect as well as the biological properties of honey. Among the results of this initiative is the Abeille Royale Advanced Youth Watery Oil (\$135), a serum derived from 95 percent natural ingredients — including black bee honey from Ouessant, France, and royal jelly, a nutrient-rich gelatinous substance produced by worker bees — that is intended to accelerate moisturization and skin repair.

The Bee Lab follows strict harvesting guidelines that ensure that the at-risk species is as protected as possible, as does Mahoni, a London-based beauty and wellness brand founded by Viola Bloch in 2020. Bloch, who left a career in media to start her company, was inspired by the healing properties of manuka honey, a rare variety that contains uniquely high levels of the antibacterial compound methylglyoxal and is produced exclusively by bees that pollinate the manuka tree, a fragrant shrub that grows only in New Zealand and parts of Australia. The brand's Skin Remedy (\$59), a salve comprising pure manuka honey, is meant to be used on blemishes but can also be applied to lips to seal in moisture. Manuka honey can be found, too, in the California-based skin-care brand Eighth Day's Skin Regenerative Serum (\$325), in which it is included for its skin-healing and immunity-boosting effects. And if the manuka tree itself appeals more than a bee product, the Vancouver-based natural skin-care brand Okoko Cosmétiques's clarifying L'Elixir de Manuka (\$101) serum contains an extract obtained directly from the plant's leaves. Many of the most luxurious honey-infused products are also intended to invoke the slow, ritualistic nature of beekeeping itself. Both Sisley-Paris's Velvet Sleeping Mask (\$152) and Mary Louise Cosmetics's Turmeric and Honey Face Mask (\$38) — the former made with thyme honey, known for its skin-soothing properties, the latter with organic raw honey and inflammation-reducing turmeric — are meant to be applied a few times a week, during a quiet moment of self-care. The German brand Augustinus Bader, meanwhile, has responded to a ritual that feels especially of our time — that of frequent hand washing. Its revitalizing Hand Treatment (\$53), introduced last year, uses organic linden honey from Bulgaria to soften skin and protect its natural barrier, making hands more resilient to the drying effects of regular scrubbing. In trying times, we might even see honey itself as a symbol of resilience, suggests Marin, who in recent years has witnessed the loss of hives because of increasingly extreme weather events. In response to our rapidly changing world, "bees show an incredible amount of adaptation," she says. "One thing that I always return to is that nature is hope."



Unwittingly, Raymond wanders into the hive's company picnic.

Other News and websites to check out

[100% Pure NZ Honey mergers with Three Peaks](#)

[Honey fingerprints and plant powers](#)

[MCT and honey industry remain steadfast in protecting term manuka honey](#)

[Buzz around Aussies taking on NZ honey](#)

[Kai Ora Honey among most memorable Country Calendar stories](#)

[What Makes Manuka Honey Different Than Normal Honey Again?](#)

[15 interesting queen bee facts](#)

[What Happens When the Queen Bee Dies?](#)

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



Thanks to all contributors of the Newsletter



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