

## Upcoming Events and Notices

**This Club Day: 6<sup>th</sup> May**

**Next Club Day: 3<sup>rd</sup> June**

### 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 continue 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.

### Kia ora Members! Urgent Request

We need nominations for a **Treasurer** as Heather is stepping down from this role. Heather has kept the books in order and we are very grateful for her hard work over the years. Thankfully, she will continue to be on the committee. We will accept nominations on Club Day.

We urgently need a **bookkeeper/accountant** (paid role) to keep the accounts. This means that the Treasurer's Role will be reduced.

Call/text Nick 02102981621 or contact any committee member if you or someone you know would be keen to be WBC Bookkeeper.

### May Club Day

This month we have our **AGM** (see below for agenda) and our **Honey Competition**. Tips for preparing honey for a competition were in last month's newsletter. You can use previous years' honey.

Registration for the honey competition closes at 9.30am and the AGM starts at 10.00 am



### WBC AGM Agenda 6<sup>th</sup> May

Welcome.

Apologies.

Approval of last AGM minutes.

Finance Report.

Reviewer's Report.

President's Report.

Election of Officers.

General Business.



### Club Day Duty Roster

Set Up Hall From 9am	Club members
Set up in Kitchen 9am & Set up Lunch	Sue Young & Lorna Child
Wash up Kitchen from Lunch	Sue Young & Lorna Child
Pack up / Clean Hall From 12-30	Club members

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.

Apianist's Advocate & April Newsletter

# News from last Club Day

**Club Day - 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023**

- Extraction
- AGM & Honey Competition
- Video time
- What to do in April?
- Nic Nac's Section
- Members talk
- LUNCH
- Hive Time

Note: Hand out roster for names

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**Extraction - Rules!**

- No Parking in front of the plant - please park in visitors parking.
- Wear a closed footwear and hi vis - if you don't have a hi vis this can be provided if organised in advance with extraction manager.
- Be patient and respectful we are on Barfoote's premise - anyone not following rules or directions will be asked to leave the premise.

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**Extraction**

- Harvest Declaration
- Appropriate stacking of supers
- Collection of wets and honey
- Be patient and respectful

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**Honey Competition & AGM**

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**Honey Competition**

- Categories:
  - Light Liquid
  - Light Granulated
  - Medium Liquid
  - Medium Granulated
  - Dark Liquid
  - Dark Granulated
  - Wax/Bee Products

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**Honey Entries**

- Honey entry conditions/criteria:
  - Honey must be in honey competition jars with no labelling (this will be done by the managing team)
  - Honey must be submitted by 9.30am 6<sup>th</sup> May

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**Treasurer Needed**

- Thank you Heather!
- Need a new treasurer for NPH & WBC by 1<sup>st</sup> June

**YOU OUR NEXT TREASURER?**

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**What to do in April?**

- Harvest Honey
- Varroa treatment!
- Feed (2 parts sugar to 1 part water)
- Disease checks
- Wasp control
- Winter down

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**Harvest techniques**

- Escape boards (easy)
- Blowing
- Brushing

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**Varroa Treatment**

- Rotate treatments (Bayvarol/apistan - spring and Apitraz/ Apivar - Autumn) or vice versa.
- If treating now you may see bad PMS or DWV
- If using oxalic keep up on applications (oxalic is a management technique not a treatment)

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**Feed**

- Check the stores
- Feed 2 to 1 (winter feed) Or dry sugar

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**Disease Checks**

- It is a good time to do a AFB disease check.
- With colonies consuming stores or robbing AFB can become present.
- Also easy to do a check while wintering down.

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**Wintering down**

- Reduce hive into least number of boxes.
- Move feed frames down into brood box to replace empty frames.
- Reduce the entrance.

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**Wasp Control**

- Now is a good time to do wasp control
- Hawkeye wasp bait (buy online)
- Vespex (approved user)

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**Video Time**

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**Bulletin**

- Honey competition - May club day!
- Roster for club day jobs
- Facebook - Whangarei Bee Club
- Mattersville is looking for a beekeeper to join the team next season.
- Treasurer needed by 1<sup>st</sup> June

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**Member Talk Time**

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**Next Club Day**

6<sup>th</sup> May

Honey Competition & AGM

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**Video Time:**  
**Beekeeping 101:**  
**Spotting Disease in a Bee Hive - Dr Mark Goodwin**

**For Sale:**  
 Self-levelling hive stands (takes 2 hives) \$150 each.  
 Pneumatic box/super brander \$ offers  
 See/ring Nick 02102981621 or  
 Ken 09-437 7067

**FRAME CLEANING**  
 Tai's Frame Cleaning Service \$1.50 per frame. For more info contact Tai Pullen 020 415 815 64 [taipullen9@gmail.com](mailto:taipullen9@gmail.com)  
 516 State Highway 1 Otaka Whangārei

## NPH Extraction Plant Updates

As we all know, it's been a very quiet honey and extracting season this year and there has been very little interest in extracting through the plant.

As such, we will be shutting it down for the season within the next couple of weeks.

If there is anyone still with any extracting that they'd like done, could you please book in via the website, the earliest date that you would be able to get your supers into the plant for extraction, preferably dropped off this week with the extraction happening early next week.

All the best for everyone as we begin to prepare our hives for winter.

Club Members, Pete and Jan McLeod have Michaelmas Daisy (monte cassino) plants that they are happy to bring in to club day for members. It is of the Aster family, tolerates dry conditions and is fairly hardy. Bees and monarchs love it and it is a good autumn nectar source for bees. It is not on the regional council invasive pest. Speak to Pete or Jan at club day if you are interested in having some plants.



David here from HiveAlive the worlds #1 bee feed supplement.

We want you to lighten our spirits by telling us your **funniest beekeeping story** - the wackier the better, no story is too crazy!

You email [info@hivealivebees.com](mailto:info@hivealivebees.com) with your funny story and a picture of yourself, ideally out at your apiary. **We will choose the 5 funniest stories and share them to our social media channels!**

If we feature your story on our social media, **we will send you some free HiveAlive!**

Thanks so much, we can't wait to hear your stories!

## Bee Guide April-May

Mid-autumn means the weather is starting to get a lot cooler. Certain summer perennials will be doing their last dash before the temperature drops into the single digits.

## It's 'gritty,' 'earthy' and unstable – so why does this jar of honey cost \$2000?

The trick to making rare, unique and expensive mānuka honey is a closely guarded secret. Beekeepers would very much like it to stay that way.

APICULTURE NZ CANTERBURY HUB and  
NZ BEESWAX LTD PRESENT:

## BEEKEEPERS' DAY OUT

Sunday 21 May 2023

8.45am - 4.30pm

Stewart Building, Lincoln University, Lincoln

*Presentations, trade displays, spot prizes, silent auction and much more.*

REGISTER NOW at

<https://apinz.org.nz/clubs-and-hubs/canterbury-hub/>

Any questions to: [apinzcanterbury@gmail.com](mailto:apinzcanterbury@gmail.com)



# APICULTURE NEW ZEALAND



**29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> June**      **Programme**  
**Registration**              **Speakers**

## Colony losses plateau at similar level to last year

New Zealand beekeepers once again reported that the *Varroa destructor* mite is the most common reason for overwintering hive losses, according to the recently released New Zealand Colony Loss Survey.

### NZ Colony Loss Survey Infographic

The full report is now available on the [Biosecurity New Zealand website](#). And all of the figures – including some not included in the report – are available on the [Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research website](#).

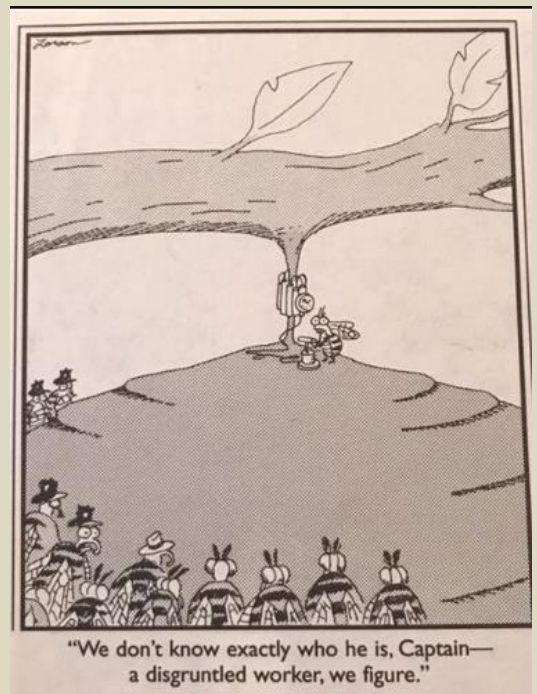
## Cyclone stings beekeepers

**Beekeepers in parts of the country badly hit by Cyclone Gabrielle and other storms are still struggling to get access to their hives.**

Apiculture NZ chief executive Karin Kos told *Rural News* the problem is mainly in isolated locations in Hawke's Bay, Tairāwhiti and Northland. It's estimated that up to 8,000 hives could have been lost in the cyclone and Kos says there will be a significant cost to beekeepers to replace these hives and their queens.

But the biggest problem for beekeepers is simply getting access to their hives on farms. Kos says it's a combination of washed-out roads and bridges and tracks on farms.

"One beekeeper I spoke to says it took them four days to get to their hives," she told *Rural News*.



## MPI pours funding into saving cyclone-hit hives

Beekeepers in cyclone-ravaged areas of the North Island can now access government funding aimed at helping prevent the spread of disease in hives.

Apiculture New Zealand chief executive Karin Kos said at least 5000 hives were destroyed in Hawke's Bay and Tairāwhiti by Cyclone Gabrielle.

However, up to 8000 more hives are still inaccessible and their future remains unknown. Kos said many hives are in isolated parts of farms, and road or track access has been cut because of flood damage.

"That's the real issue," says Kos. "Just being able to get to these hives."

## Cyclone damage shows New Zealand's beekeepers are unprepared for climate change

Thousands of hives in remote areas still unreachable and full scale of devastation remains unknown

Two months after a cyclone swept away thousands of beehives in the fertile fruit bowl of New Zealand's North Island and left thousands more unreachable, beekeepers are facing a painful and costly recovery that has prompted questions of how they will adapt to the intensifying climate crisis.

# Financial Statement

Whangarei Bee Club Incorporation

Opening Bank Balances as at 20 March 23

Operating Account	39,689.20
Savings Account	408.19
Total Funds	<u>40,097.39</u>

**Plus Income From**

New Members	265.00
Interest-01	1.27
	<u>266.27</u>
	<u>40,363.66</u>

**Less Expenditure**

Bank Fees	2.00
RWT-01	0.57
Web Site - OnLine designs	48.30
Whareora Hall Hire	80.00
L Child - Club Day Pizzas	169.72
	<u>300.59</u>
	<u>40,063.07</u>

Total Balances as at 20 April 23

Operating Account	39,654.18
Savings Account	408.89
	<u>40,063.07</u>

# Other News and websites to check out

'Bees are sentient': inside the stunning brains of nature's hardest workers

'Game changer' wasp control insects on verge of release

Beekeepers called to action amid fears varroa complacency is threatening multi-billion-dollar industry

Poisoning due to tutin in honey a report of an outbreak in New Zealand (2018)

A Taste of Honey: Mead brewed beneath the mountain adds new flavours in Ruapehu

Colony losses remain high

'Devastating' - More than 97,000 bee colonies lost last winter

## 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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