

Upcoming Events and Notices

This Club Day: 3rd August

Next Club Day: 7th September

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.

August Club Day.....
....Getting ready for
SUMMER!!!!

Library Books:

A reminder that all library books need to be signed out. Please return any books that have been borrowed, there are several that have been borrowed and not been signed out.



Thank you to the outgoing members of the committee for all their work. Nick, Heather, and Mike; all your work is very much appreciated.

Vince has been secretary of WBC for 10 YEARS!! We want to acknowledge all your work and thank you for helping to keep the club running smoothly.

Members: please consider putting your name forward to help on the committee or on Club Days, the club needs you!

Club Day Duty Roster

Set Up Hall From 9am	
Set up in Kitchen 9am & Set up Lunch	
Wash up Kitchen from Lunch	
Pack up / Clean Hall From 12-30	

Volunteers needed

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

News from last Club Day

Club Day Summary 6th July 2024

AGM

We had the required quorum and the AGM proceeded. Suzie and Vince chaired the meeting. The financials for WBC and NPH were available on the WBC website.

Heather has stood down after many years as the club's Treasurer, membership coordinator and meet and greet person on club days. She has been a great servant to our club over many years and will be hugely missed. Thank you, Heather, for all your hard work over the years.

Mike Poyner has stood down from the committee but will continue as our IT person on club days. Thank you, Mike, we continue to appreciate your work on setting up the sound system.

We welcomed Janine Stubbs onto the committee as our membership coordinator and Sharon Berridge-Stott will be the meet and greet person. Thank you both.

As well Danny Vendt has rejoined the committee. Danny will bring valuable experience from his beekeeping activities and time served on the committee over the years.

Maree Maddock had earlier stepped down as a director of NPH. Currently we have Carlo Lang and Andrew Stinear as the NPH directors. We need one more.

Your new WBC Committee is:

President: Morgan Clair

Vice President: Andrew Stinear

Secretary: Vincent Lane

Treasurer: Karin De Beer

Newsletter: Suzie Scourfield

Membership: Janine Stubbs

Committee member: Danny Vendt

Sharon Berridge-Stott will be the 'meet and greet' person on club days (but does not wish to be on the committee)

Andrew Stinear gave a detailed update on Northland Pure Honey. It covered the recent successful but expensive MPI audit. He thanked Sol Moore for his work as the Extraction Plant manager for the last season and asked members for their thoughts on options for NPH coming into next season. Do we hire a new manager and make our extraction prices more competitive? Or do we look at the possibility of members extracting their own honey etc?

The AGM went for an hour which is a lot longer than we are used to. There was good discussion.

YouTube Video

After the AGM we watched a David Byrne video which Morgan had set up. It covered **winter hive management** in David's part of the US. [link](#)

Nic Nacs

Sue showed us a 'hive nappy' which she uses for hive insulation. It's made of wool and fits above the top brood box over winter. Place it on top of the queen excluder and below the top feeder, or if no feeder then under the hive lid. Order at admin@fleece2fleece.com (www.fleece2fleece.com). It was advertised in our July 2023 newsletter.

Bulletin

Heather is away this month, so the new membership cards will be available from next month.

Please sign out the club's beekeeping books you take from Mike and Pat at the back table on club days. There are many books that are currently unaccounted for.

News from last Club Day

Vince has included here the summary from a video shown after last year's AGM. It is from Dr Mark Goodwin who is a scientist at Plant & Food Research, specialising in honeybee and hive health, and the pollination services these colonies provide.

This video is about issues related to feeding sugar syrup ([link](#)). It is also relevant to this time of year. He sees feeding sugar as a thing to do in Spring to stimulate brood numbers. He is looking at it from a pollinators point of view.

- Warm syrup is better than cold
- Under or over-feeding is a problem
- The syrup can easily ferment so do not leave it in too long. Additives can promote fermentation. If they haven't used the syrup in a week throw it away
- Hive Alive is a seaweed-based supplement used for Spring stimulation. It also helps to stop fermentation. Once you start feeding in Spring you can't stop – you need to support the growing brood numbers until the flow starts
- Don't feed too much to weak colonies
- Can use dry raw / white sugar over winter. Be careful with non-white sugars (they must not contain molasses)
- Evening is the best time to put the syrup in the feeder (fewer robbing scouts around)
- The new type of top feeders with corner entry are very good.
- Target 2:1 (sugar: water) in Winter (67 brix). Target 1:1 in Spring (50 brix) for queen laying stimulation. Note that brix values are a measure of the soluble solids content of a solution.

ApiNZ Update

Paul Martin gave us an interesting update on what's happening at ApiNZ.

- Our bee industry is struggling. We have gone from 1 million hives and 8,500 beekeepers in the good times, down to 500,000 hives and 8000 beekeepers (6,500 are hobbyists) at present.
- The price of manuka honey has fallen 20% since its peak. Other honey is currently getting \$3 - \$5/kg.
- Huge need, as always, to focus on biosecurity. So far, we have managed to keep out the small hive beetle. There are several other bee related pests which we have talked about on club days, that could wreak havoc if they reached here.
- We need to set up a commodity levy for the honey industry to survive. We are currently paying levies to UMF, AFB, ApiNZ. Maybe combine these into one levy.
- The current government has increased funding to the honey industry. The industry needs to show the value bees have for the horticulture sector (kiwifruit, cherries, avocados). Currently pollination services are getting taken for granted.
- Full update details are on the [ApiNZ website](#).

Hive Time

Morgan thought it too cold that day for hive time. A couple of days after the meeting Bob Sanson went to check our remaining hive and found it empty. We will need to look at getting a couple of new hives in Spring / Summer.

FRAME CLEANING

Tai's Frame Cleaning Service \$1.50 per frame.

For more info contact Tai Pullen 020 415 815 64

taipullen9@gmail.com

516 State Highway 1 Otaika Whangārei

AFB PMP Newsletter Issue 3, June 2024

[Click here to read the newsletter.](#)

[Click here to read the industry announcement.](#)



APICULTURE
NEW ZEALAND



SNI Beekeepers Group presents:

THE BEEKEEPERS' CONFERENCE

11-13 August 2024

Whanganui Racecourse

\$100 a day if you belong to a group or club

Keynote speaker **RANDY OLIVER** will present in person on...

Sunday: 'All About Varroa: Skills/Tools/Systems'

Monday & Tuesday: 'Finding that one hive that tolerates varroa and breeding from it'.

For a registration form email: beekeepersconference2024@gmail.com

Any questions to: Frank Lindsay (Secretary) lindsay.s.apiaries@gmail.com



International beekeeping news

Follow the link to the [July Apimondia Newsletter](#) for updates from around the world on bee health, events and the EU's efforts to combat honey adulteration.

UK - Bee colonies are suffering from the worst outbreak of a killer disease in a decade.

American foulbrood (AFB) has been found in more than 30 colonies in north-east England, according to the National Bee Unit (NBU).

AFB is caused by bacteria that infect young bee larvae, which then spreads through the hive leading to the death of the colony.

John Canning, from the Cleveland Beekeepers Association, said once AFB is discovered the "only solution is to burn the colony".

[More here](#)

All ApiNZ beekeeping club members are invited to enter *The New Zealand BeeKeeper* photo competition.

(Any member of your club may enter; they don't need to have a personal ApiNZ membership).

Entries close on Friday 30 August

Entry is via the Members Only page of the ApiNZ website so photos will need to be entered by someone with the club password.

Please add the club's name to the photo file names: E.g.,

LianeSmith_TaupoBeeClub_ScenicPortrait_View from Hives.jpg

You may enter in as many categories as you wish.

This year's categories:

1. Close-up print – subject must relate to apiculture
2. Scenic print – apiary subject such as flowers, hives, etc.
3. Portrait print – person involved in any part of the apiculture industry
4. 'Oh Darn!' – for those 'oops' moments that occur during beekeeping
5. Beekeeper Business Challenge – get your beekeeping business to send in a photo of your 'office' (apiary site/s). Who's got the best in the country?
6. Mobile Phone Snaps – an apiculture moment captured on your phone



The edited videos of the Summit will be available in the next few weeks. These videos will have the ability for you to jump through to find what you are interested in.

In the meantime, if you wish to watch the Summit videos now, the raw video footage is on private YouTube links [here](#) and [here](#).

Varroa Management from Randy Oliver [Part 1](#) & [Part 2](#)

Financial Statement

Whangarei Bee Club Incorporation

Opening Bank Balances as at 20 April 2024

Operating Account	10,710.26
Savings Account	35,552.06
Total Funds	46,262.32

Plus Income From

New Members	330.00
Hives & Bee equipt sales	
Renew Memberships	3,920.00
Book sales	45.00
Interest-01	399.67
	4,694.67
	50,956.99

Less Expenditure

AFB yearly levy	52.73
Bank Fees	7.60
RWT -acct01	179.85
Club Day Expenses	170.50
Gifts Speakers etc	240.00
Bookeeping Costs	67.50
Web Site - OnLine designs	151.80
Whareora Hall Hire	240.00
Yearly Subscriptions Apicult. NZ	253.00
Xero - Monthly Sub	122.48
	1,485.46
	49,471.53

Total Balances as at 20 July 2024

Operating Account	13,699.65
Savings Account	35,771.88
	49,471.53

Other News and websites to check out

In Europe, beekeepers have found a novel solution to the marauding wasps.

EPA gives thumbs down to glyphosate review (farmersweekly.co.nz)

Christchurch Rich List Stewart family firm buys US honey business Wedderspoon

Beekeeper looks for answers after 1.2 million bees suddenly drop dead in Lively, Ont.

Winners at the 2024 London International Honey Awards

University Of Guelph Honey Bee Research Centre

Beekeeping News Australia

UK - Bees hit by worst disease outbreak in a decade

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



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

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