

Upcoming Events and Notices

This Club Day: 1st Feb

Next Club Day: 1st March

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.

February Club Day

Presentation followed by checking on the hives.



Hive ware for sale

The Club has unused full depth and $\frac{3}{4}$ boxes with unwaxed frames for sale to members.

\$30 for full depth

\$25 for $\frac{3}{4}$

See committee members on club day if interested.

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	

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.

News from last Club Day

Club Day – 7th December 2024

Welcome!

To our final club meet of 2024



'Helping Beekeepers Keep Bees'

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Club Day – 7th December 2024

- Welcome!
- Dreaming of a honey harvest?
- Interesting you tube videos
- Member talk time
- Nic Nac's Section
- Bulletin
- Potluck lunch
- Hive Time – new hive into the long hive!
- Note: Hand out roster for names – February club day

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Dreaming of a honey harvest?



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Dreaming of a honey harvest?

Before you harvest

- Summer is the time to be checking your hives for – Requeening results
- Add honey boxes (supers) to the hive to begin build up, and continue to do so as required.
- Check for diseases before removing any honey or hive-ware
 - Check any stored comb for wax moth
 - Monitor varroa levels carefully
- Begin raising your Autumn queens (spring hatches)

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Dreaming of a honey harvest?

Understanding the work

- A single bee may need to visit over 1000 flowers to fill it's 'honey stomach' just once.
- 1 bee will produce around 1/12 of a teaspoon of honey in it's lifetime.
- This takes around 2 million flower visits for a colony to produce 500g of honey!

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Dreaming of a honey harvest?

What is honey?

- Bees begin by collecting nectar from flowers, which is very dilute.
- Once in the honey stomach, the nectar is mixed with enzymes from special glands, this enzymes splits the sucrose bond in nectar into simple sugars (glucose, fructose & monosaccharides)
- Once the above processes have taken place, and the nectar put into comb cells, the bees will begin to evaporate the water from the nectar by fanning their wings over the cells until the sugar is concentrated to around 18-19%
- When the nectar has had the sugars simplified and enough water evaporated (from around 70% down to 15 – 20%) they will cap the cells and it is officially now honey!

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Dreaming of a honey harvest?

Should we harvest honey?

- This is a widely debated topic. How does keeping bees impact honey production, the environment and the bees themselves?
- Bees produce more honey than they need to sustain their colony over winter, so many beekeepers believe that using the excess for human benefit causes little harm to the bees' welfare. Others claim that the bees are overworked as they have to make up extra volumes of honey to replace what's taken (Journal of environmental law and litigation)
- Additionally, when honey is taken and replaced with a sugar alternative, bees aren't getting the same nutrition.
- Moving bees to an area for a good honey harvest will increase the amount of bees in the area.
- Domesticated bees compete with other native bees for food resources, flower resources can become limited and eventually, some bee species will lose and die out (University of Cambridge)
- Different bee species target specific flowers and so a balance of honeybees and other species is essential in the long term survival of plant and insect species.
- What bees have you seen around your apiaries?

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Native bees found at Lake Waikare (Kai iwi lakes)



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Dreaming of a honey harvest?

My supers are full, what now?

- There are many different ways to harvest your honey super – if using a queen excluder, check the super is definitely only honey – no brood or sneaky queen. Once confirmed, you can lift the whole super off, and set it up with an escape board.
- https://youtu.be/Oy82ID-ybJ0?si=ShULF_G4xUD1nCN

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Dreaming of a honey harvest? – Extraction plant

- I have my supers harvested and ready for extraction, what now?
- If you intend to extract through the plant – it is not officially opened yet but we are in negotiations with a new plant manager currently and will announce asap when the plant will open, keep an eye on your emails!
- Ensure you book using the website, all bookings going forward will be via the website or an email to the NPH manager directly, no phone orders will be taken.
- Harvest declaration MUST BE COMPLETED before dropping off your supers.
- Your honey will NOT be extracted if this form is not filled in correctly, all boxes ticked and the bottom dated and signed. This is a legal requirement for us to keep the extraction plant.

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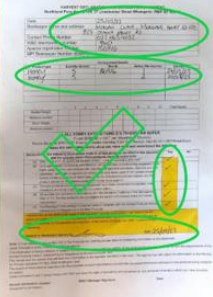
10

Extraction plant rules

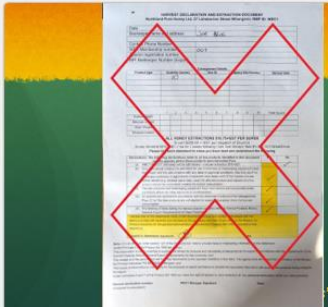
- Ensure you are not bringing in any brood or bees to the plant – these are grounds for the manager to report your super and not extract.
- Do not turn up unannounced: This is a commercial business in operation, the manager will be planning his time accordingly and your cooperation helps keep everything flowing smoothly.
- Closed toe footwear must be worn onsite – NPH is located on a commercial construction site, it can be busy and have heavy machinery and trucks driving around. Wear hi-vis or advise the manager you will need to borrow a plant hi-vis vest while you are onsite.
- Sign in on our visitor register on arrival, sign out on departure – this is part of our agreement with Barfoot's health and safety plan.
- Only turn up onsite if the plant manager has agreed to the time, day and activity you are there for in writing (email usually).
- Please use the visitor car park initially, sign in and check in with the plant manager and only park by the plant when you are ready to drop off or pick up.
- Listen to what the Plant manager tells you, if he says no, it means no.

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Member talk time

- Have a topic you'd like to discuss? Questions you want answered?
- Now's the time to raise your hand!

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Nic Nac's Section



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APICULTURE
NEW ZEALAND

Tutin management time

Tutin is a potent neurotoxin found in a honeydew produced by the passion vine hopper (*Scolypopa australis*), an insect that lives on tutu as well as many other woody stemmed plants.

Often under dry summer conditions with low nectar flows bees will collect toxic honeydew that has been secreted by the passion vine hopper feeding on tutu bushes. This toxic honeydew can contaminate your honey and make it unsaleable and, worst case, it could poison consumers. This is why it is very important to work within the tutin in honey standards set by MPI.

For further information, [click here](#).

Beekeepers burn hives as infectious disease spreads through Dannevirke

There's fears hobbyist beekeepers are threatening the industry as a highly infectious beehive disease continues to spread through the Tararua town of Dannevirke.

American foulbrood, commonly known as AFB, has led beekeepers in the region to burn their hives.

The fatal disease is caused by the spore-forming bacterium *Paenibacillus larvae*.

FRAME CLEANING

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

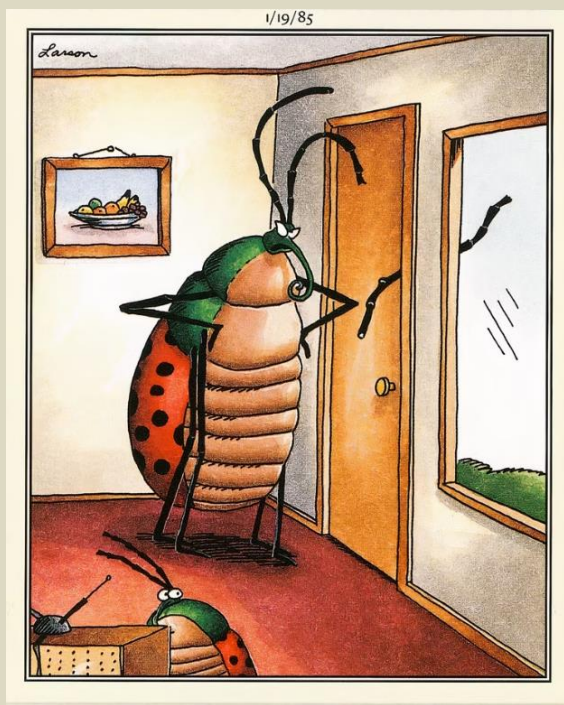
For more info contact Tai Pullen 020 415 815 64

taipullen9@gmail.com

516 State Highway 1 Otaika Whangārei

Looking for a place for your hives?

We have five acres at Takahiwai near Ruakaka. We are wondering if any of your members would like to put hives on the land. It borders a stand of native bush which includes kanuka and manuka. The grass is allowed to grow long and has flowers as the sheep do not graze it all out. We don't spray with chemicals. My contact is this email or 021 134 5317
Kind regards,
Lynda Harris



"Oh, for heaven's sake! Your father left in such a hurry this morning he's lost another antenna."

Thousands of honeybees equipped with tiny QR codes by Penn State scientists

STATE COLLEGE (KDKA) - Researchers at Penn State came up with a small but mighty way to learn honeybees' hive secrets.

Scientists glued teeny tiny QR codes, that are smaller than a pinky nail, to the backs of young bees to figure out how much time the pollinators spend buzzing outside their hives, collecting pollen and nectar. They also wanted to try to track the bees' travel habits.

"This summer we marked over 32,000 bees," said Robyn Underwood, a co-author on the paper and Penn State Extension educator in apiculture.

Financial Statement

Whangarei Bee Club Incorporation

Opening Bank Balances as at 20th November 2024

Operating Account	10,232.41
Savings Account	36,056.68
Total Funds	46,289.09

Plus Income From

New Members	440.00
Book sales	-
Hives & Bee equipt sales	150.00
Renew Memberships	120.00
other revenue	24.12
Interest-01	211.81
	945.93
	47,235.02

Less Expenditure

Bank Fees	-
RWT -acct01	95.31
Club Day Expenses	12.88
Hives & equipt purchase	90.00
Books purchase	617.96
Web Site - OnLine designs	101.20
Whareora Hall Hire	160.00
Bookeeping	202.50
Xero - Monthly Sub	129.38
	1,409.23
	45,825.79

Total Balances as at 20 January 2025

Operating Account	9,652.61
Savings Account	36,173.18
	45,825.79

Other News and websites to check out

Report picks up honey's sour notes

Drought decimates honey production, forcing beekeepers to handfeed - ABC News

Beekeeper mourns millions of bees killed in mountain fire - LA Times

Disaster response "Bee Platoon" deployed to help beekeepers after LA fires

5 delicious native honeys to try this summer

Honeybee dancing reveals hive health

Pollination keeping beekeepers afloat

Nestle sells NZ's Egmont Honey

Beekeepers halt honey awards over 'huge fraud' in global supply chain

MPI drops allegations of fraud against Gloriavale honey company after liquidation

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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