



FRANKLIN BEEKEEPERS CLUB

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER 2018

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PRESIDENTS REPORT SEPTEMBER 2018

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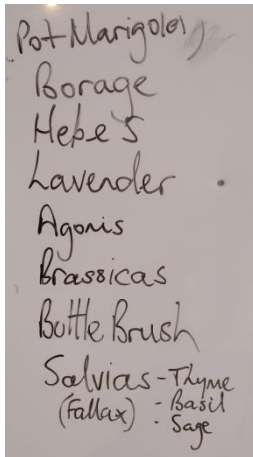
Spring is upon us, the weather is starting to warm up and the so are the hives. There is a buzz in the air, lambs are bouncing in the paddocks and the daffodils are blooming. There has been lots of activity at the club especially behind the scenes, with fundraising in full swing for the new extraction room. A huge thank you to all the members that have contributed to this worthy cause by either making a donation or buying a debenture we are well on our way of reaching our target goal.

The Barn is coming along nicely and constantly evolving; make sure you check out the library that has a selection of books and beekeeping journals that you are more than welcome to loan. If you wish to make any suggestions or you have any comments please feel free to do so in person or in the book that is provided – the club is for everyone and your feedback is important in how the club will grow and support its members.

The August meeting was great with over 60 members turning up, a very information talk about the different types of treatments for Varroa, thank you Peter S for showing us how the bee sauna works and Peter B on ways to use oxalic acid. Bee safe and see you all at the September and October meetings.

Tania Brown (*President*)

FLOWERS OF THE MONTH



COI – CERTIFICATE OF INSPECTION.

A letter will have been received by now reminding you that you need to get a DECA to inspect your hives and sign off the paperwork which needs to be returned by the 30th Nov 2018. It is good beekeeping management to check your hive or do an inspection every time you look in your hive.

If you are unsure about what to do please click on the following link

https://www.franklinbees.co.nz/event/afb-hive-inspections-for-non-deca-holders/?instance_id=1379

Don't have your DECA you can either get someone who does to check your hive or better still attend the one day course and become DECA.

If you are interested in doing the course click on the follow link <http://www.afb.org.nz/beekeeping-courses>

WHAT SHOULD I BE DOING IN MY HIVES AT THE MOMENT – SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER?

Treatment for Varroa should be in your hives – remember to follow the instructions set out by the manufacturer on whatever treatment you choose to use. One of the main reasons for mite resistance is using a treatment from the same chemical family along with not using the recommended treatments for the recommended time frame.

For the month of September - Check your brood frames for AFB – American Foulbrood feed your hives if necessary, Unite any weak or queenless hives with a stronger queenright hive. Clean up any vegetation growth around your hives.

For the month of October – Check your brood frames for AFB, Check the pollen stores and feed with supplements if need be. Manipulate your hives to prevent swarming. Requeen hives with mated queens, queen cells or let them make their own. Split your hives if you want to increase your numbers.

SPLITTING COLONIES

The hives will split themselves by way of swarming, so as beekeepers we manage this by effectively swarming them in a controlled way.

Peter Smith ran through how to split a colony in the September meeting.

Instructions on how to do this method of splitting can be found on the Franklin Beekeeping club web site <https://www.franklinbees.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/HiveSplitting.pdf>

DID YOU KNOW

There is more to bees than just honeyWe also have in the pipe line (due to interest) and hope to have available soon, a one day course on candle making, bees wax wraps and making your own balms – this will give you the basics on how to make these things, come away from the day with a candle, wraps and your own balm tailor for your own needs.

If you are interested in learning these skills let us know secretary@franklinbees.co.nz or contact@franklinbees.co.nz

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE BARN

The Gardening team of Steve Benham and Katherina Short and Grant have been working to make the garden great. The place is looking really good! Can't wait to see the plants thriving!

AFB RECOGNITION COURSE

There are none planned on the <http://www.afb.org.nz/beekeeping-courses>. However if you are interested please contact info@afb.org.nz who are very helpful.

If you require an AFB inspection please contact the president at president@franklinbees.co.nz. Who will try and connect you up with a DECA holder.

FRANKLIN BEE CLUB AS A TEACHING CLUB

Normally the club runs one course a year, but due to demand we have had to restructure how we present the courses and by the time the October club day rolls around we would have done 5 separate beginner beekeeping courses, with our youngest ever student being 14 years old – it is so awesome to see so many people keen to get into such a worthwhile, frustrating and rewarding hobby.

One of the major highlights with the courses is that Martyn and I had the opportunity to teach the students at Waiuku College. In 2017 a group of students from the college took part in the Tiaki programme which is an environmental initiative from the Manukau Beautification Charitable Trust which focuses on creating “guardians of the environment” they decided to make a horizontal hive with a viewing window. As a result they took out first place in the senior awards/section. They have also now as a result of this set a Bee Club at the school and their teacher Mr Colin North approached the club and asked if we would like to work with the students this year, which as a committee we accepted – a group of students spent two evenings at the school doing the course and had a field trip to the club for the practical side.....



A SPECIAL CLUB MEMBER

We have such a wide diverse group of people within the club that have so many interests and hobbies other than our common interest of beekeeping.

Many of you may not be aware but one of our new members Erina Wehi Barton is about to embark on a challenge of climbing Mount Everest, Edz came along to the August beekeeping course and shared with us her plans for her upcoming adventure.

Edz leaves New Zealand on the 20th September to fly to Nepal and then on to Lukia (a small town at the bottom of Mt Everest, before trekking to the base camp at Kalar Patar she is spending some time at Sir Edmond Hillary School (Hymilayna Primary School). It will take her 16 days to trek up and down the mountain and once she reaches the bottom Edz will be working with the kids at an orphanage – the children at this orphanage have been rescued from being trafficked into Kathmandu.

A truly amazing woman and I would like to on behalf of all the club members wish you a safe and successful trip and look forward to hearing about your adventures on your return.



FRANKLIN BEE CLUB DIRECTIONS

Venue: 137 Sim Rd

Directions:

From Pukekohe –

Carry on past the old club rooms and Caltex/Golf club (Karaka Rd). The second road on the right is Sim Rd, and it has a turning bay halfway along the passing lane.

From Drury –

Head towards Pukekohe. Once you have passed Blackbridge Rd on your right, Sim Rd will be coming up on your left. At Christmas, trees are sold at this corner. There is also an equine vet clinic at this corner. 137 Sim Rd is nearly 1.4 km along this road. Watch the sharp right hand corner halfway along. Please park on the verge. This allows room for other residents to get past. We want to stay in their good books!



Quarantine rules

To reduce the risk of spreading disease, the committee decided (20th October 2014) to restrict the bringing of any used bee keeping equipment (including gloves and hive tool) to club days – exception is your bee suit.

Where required, gloves and other equipment are provided by the club.

This rule is not just to protect the club hives, but also protects you from taking diseases home to your hives.

HELP ALSO REQUIRED TO ASSIST THE HIVEMASTER

If you are willing to assist, we require volunteers to aid the hive masters. The current work load to check and look after 2 apiary sites coming into peak season can be time consuming, if anyone would like to assist Martyn, please contact Tania at president@franklinbees.co.nz, and we can arrange a suitable time.

Welcome to our newest members:

Rachel Cheeseman, Kevin McCarthy, John & Denise Guy, Corrin Hil, I Itchy Wright, Scott Wiltshire, Erina Wehi-Barton, Theo Aegerter, Amanda Simpson, Jacques Beukman, Dichard Delany, Fraser Wells, Papatoetoe High School and Waiuku College.

Looking forward to getting to know you and how we can support you.

VOLUNTEERS TO ASSIST AT CLUB MEETINGS

We would like to involve members more at club meetings, if anyone is able to assist in setting up the room for a meeting , and clearing away at the end please contact president@franklinbees.co.nz

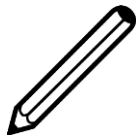
BEE CLUB COMMITTEE MINUTES

Should anyone require a copy of the minutes from the last committee meeting, please send me an email at editor@franklinbees.co.nz, and I will gladly send them by return. The committee meeting happen after the club day, so stick around and hear what we are up to for yourself.

BEE CLUB NOW ON FACEBOOK

Please join us on the new Facebook group share your experience and questions. It's a great place to learn too and meetup with people.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/458676694483940/>



If you would like to contribute articles, recipes, photos or any other content for the newsletter or website, please get in touch we would love to hear from you

Did you know that old newsletters are published 'an issue late' on our website at

<http://www.franklinbees.co.nz/newsletters>