

The CROSS-POLLINATOR

Newsletter of the Australian Native Bee Association

<https://australiannativebee.org.au/>

Issue 14, September 2020

CIRCULATION: Members of the ANBA (currently 410)

Original articles, new information and news
from the world of native bees.

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FEATURE ARTICLE

My experiences with the stingless bee
Austroplebeia cincta in Papua New Guinea

By Matthew Middleton



Message from the Management Committee

Dear members,

Protecting our native bees from new pest threats

The Australian Native Bee Association has been invited to contribute to a new project that will benefit our native bees into the future. Plant Health Australia is undertaking a project, funded by the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment to develop an Environmental Risk Mitigation Plan for Australian Native Bees. The project will identify biosecurity risks that threaten the health and diversity of Australia's precious native bees and identify activities to mitigate these risks.

We have published some recent articles in the Cross-Pollinator of the threat to native bees from viruses and other pathogens. An example of an invasive species that has already had a large and negative impact is the small hive beetle that entered Australia in 2002 and immediately became a serious pest of both honey bee and native stingless bee colonies.

This project will develop a better understanding of the biosecurity threats to native bees, increase the awareness of those threats and identify practises to mitigate the risk and consequences of an invasion.

We congratulate PHA and DAWE for taking this initiative. It is only the third example in a new direction of protecting our native plant and animal life; most of their work focuses on protecting our productive industries

such as crops, domestic animals, and honey bees. It is refreshing to know that they are also considering our native wildlife.

We look forward to working with PHA over the next 18 months to ensure that our perspective on the development of this environmental risk management plan is heard. Keep your antennae out for the engagement activities that will be taking place, we hope that a wide section of our membership is able to contribute.

Branch meetings

The Annual General Meeting of ANBA is planned for 6 December 2020, formal notice will be sent later. Branches will be holding their own AGMs to elect positions for the coming year and report financials for the previous year. Branches are entitled to nominate a Branch representative for election to the Management Committee. For this to happen the Branch will need to hold their AGM and select their nominee 14 days prior to the ANBA AGM on 6 Dec. Find a suggested agenda for a branch meeting and a draft nomination form on our website: <https://australiannativebee.org.au/Form-a-new-local-branch>. We hope that the ABNA and branch AGMs are well attended events where members have their say on the future of their association. Please consider running for a position. Contact your local branch, or if you are interested in a national position contact Trevor Weatherhead. Contact details are listed in this and every issue of Cross-Pollinator.

Warm regards from the Management Committee: Tim, Dan, Trevor, Peter, Wayne, Kit, Dean, Diane, Martin, Samantha, Ian and Tony

Australian Native Bee Association Management Committee

All members of the Management Committee would be happy to hear from you with questions, suggestions etc.

Secretary: Trevor Weatherhead, 0427 960735, Email: sec@australiannativebee.org.au

President: Tim Heard, 0434 416053, Email: pres@australiannativebee.org.au

Vice President: Dan Smalles, Email: dan@sydneynativebees.com or vpres@australiannativebee.org.au

Treasurer: Peter Stone, Email: treas@australiannativebee.org.au

Membership Officer: Wayne Berry, 0410 585500, Email: memoff@australiannativebee.org.au

Communication officer: Tim Heard (acting), 0434 416053, Email: comoff@australiannativebee.org.au.

Committee member: Kit Prendergast, Email: kit.prendergast21@gmail.com

Brisbane branch representative / Honey subcommittee: Dean Haley, Email: josephhale67@gmail.com

For more information and to join, go to our website: <https://australiannativebee.org.au>

Or Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Australian.Native.Bee.Association/>

Follow us on Instagram to see hero shots of native bees. <https://www.instagram.com/australiannativebeeassociation/>



FEATURE ARTICLE

Each monthly issue of CROSS-POLLINATOR includes an original article. This month, Matthew Middleton writes about his recent experiences with stingless bees in Papua New Guinea. Matthew is director of the Australian native bee business BeeZotted, which was engaged as a consultant and educator for a project in the Markham Valley. His experience with stingless bees in remote parts of Australia prepared him well for the role of awakening the keeping of these bees for honey production in PNG. Matthew was struck by the beauty of the most common species he found, *Austroplebeia cincta*. This bee also occurs in a small area of Far North Queensland and in a future issue we will publish recent efforts by Zac Petersen to breed these enchanting little bees there.

MY EXPERIENCES WITH THE STINGLESS BEE *AUSTROPLEBEIA CINCTA* IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA

BY MATTHEW MIDDLETON

The connecting flight from Port Moresby to Lae bounced over the Owen Stanley Range; the thick cloud blanketing the land fuelled my imaginations of the jungle beneath. An occasional glimpse of tangled greenery had me wondering how I was going to find bees in that. The clouds parted on our final approach to Lae's Nadzab airport. The broad vivid green Markham Valley was revealed, framed by steep mountains on either side and defined by the multi-channelled Markham River that wove its course through a patchwork of human activity on the valley floor.

Next we were bouncing along the Highlands Highway inside a security vehicle heading for our accommodation inside a gated community. My eyes were glued to the security-meshed windows, taking in all the wonders that jolted by. Many people were out and about on the roadside, most walking, all colourfully dressed. We passed a footy game on a bit of cleared uneven ground on the side of the highway. Good to see some maroon jerseys! Numerous stalls straddled the road, which was more a network of bone-jarring potholes.

Papua New Guinea is 700 kilometres south of the equator. It has a tropical climate with high humidity – up to 90%. The average daytime temperature on the coastal plains is 28 degrees Celsius. In the Markham Valley, average yearly rainfall is 4200 mm. As director of the Australian native bee business BeeZotted, I was engaged to be a consultant and educator for the PNG Biomass *Swipela Bi Hani* project in the Markham Valley. On this first visit in 2018, BeeZotted hive engineer Eduard Reuss was also engaged to make boxes and teach locals how to make boxes.

Switpela Bi Hani is a unique and outstanding project for many reasons. To date little attention had been given to the stingless bees of Markham Valley. One would presume locals who mainly rely on their food gardens to feed their families would have a broader appreciation of pollination; this was not the case. The program aimed to create awareness of the presence and value of native bees in the valley, and present communities with potential interesting local business opportunities.

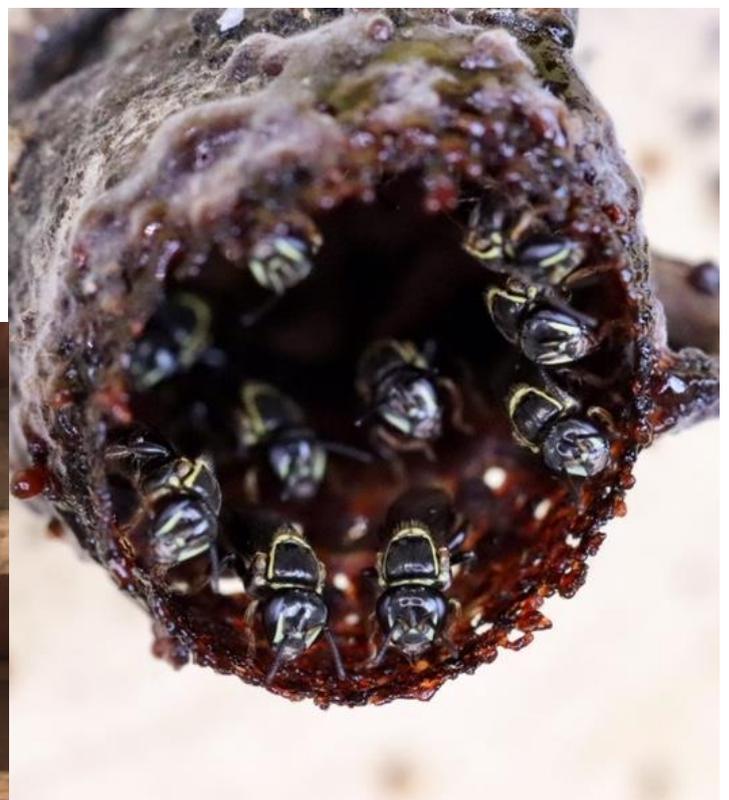
Up at dawn next day, we scanned the surrounding garden flowers for the first insect foragers of the morning, before official office work and inductions began. My initial concerns of having no experience with bees in tropical environments melted away with the humidity as we spotted numerous bees on our first reconnaissance. Primed with the bush bee skills taught to me by the old people in the Kimberley region of Western Australia while working as a remote area nurse/midwife in the eighties, and with thirty-odd years of experience working with stingless bee since then, we ventured further into the tropical gardens.

We were jubilant upon finding our first *Austroplebeia cincta* hive in a metal house support pole. The hives are fairly recognisable; with characteristically long showy entrance tunnels and little bees with yellow-striped face markings. Luckily I had brought along Anne Dollin's articles on *A. cincta* and Tim Heard's book *The Australian Native Bee Book* to continue my investigations of what type of bees we had found. I came to love these little bees. The perpetual rotation of the guard bees ringing the tunnel entrances was mesmerising; I was captivated by them.

Over the next few days, with the help of villagers, we found and were shown numerous *Austroplebeia cincta* hives throughout the project area, as well as other stingless bee species including *Tetragonula clypearis* and *T. sapiens*. We found hives in trees, logs, coconut trees and coconuts, house walls, in the ground and inside old tyres and long discarded machinery. We were able to educt *A. cincta* into small boxes similar to mini OATH boxes, and bamboo hives designed by BeeZotted for this purpose. Some of these hive educations were ready to disconnect from the mother hive and flourish on their own within three to four months.



Austroplebeia cincta entrance tube



Small *Austroplebeia cincta* entrance tube



It became apparent, when educating *A. cincta* hives, that the impressive entrance tunnels needed to be grafted on to their new hive entrance. We achieved this by inserting a small plastic pipe into the new entrance with about 2-3cm protruding outside the hive, over which we moulded the old entrance tunnel. The bees didn't balk at entering their new homes with the original entrance attached. I observed some of these tunnels growing by one centimetre a day. Presumably this spectacular growth of their entrance tunnels correlated with the perceived threats of attacking ants.

Entrance tube moved onto box to attract bees after transfer into a box



Austroplebeia cincta education from coconut tree into bamboo

Austroplebeia cincta brightly coloured workers



Colonized tool box!



The bees didn't cover their hives with the black batumen outer covering; we could just look through the viewing window at the alien-looking inner workings of the hives and the bees at their work.

The *A. cincta* honey was light in colour, with trace fragrances of mango, pawpaw, vanilla, cocoa, guava, ginger and orchid flowers detected as it exploded in my mouth. Having tasted a lot of native bee honey across Australia, I believe the *A. cincta* honey is in a class of its own for its exquisite fruit salad taste.

The local people in Markham Valley speak Tok Pisin, a creole language spoken throughout Papua New Guinea. On this first visit and subsequent visits, as a member of the PNG Biomass team I had local company staff assisting with translation and the delivery of stingless bee workshops in villages. Through these workshops we explained the importance of bees in pollinating village gardens and crops. Villagers learnt the basics of meliponiculture, and how to successfully rescue hives that would have been discarded in the past. Together we developed cheap, user-friendly hive options that continue to flourish.

We were always treated as honoured guests – with great respect. A delicious banquet of home-grown and home-cooked produce followed every workshop. Difficulties arose



Austroplebeia cincta nests use little propolis and so the observation windows stay very clear



when on the odd occasion we visited more than two villages a day facilitating workshops. How much can one eat in a day? We did not want to be disrespectful to the hosting villagers, so we soon learnt not to eat our fill at the first village! I loved the flavours of their organic food cooked in traditional clay pots over coals.

The village gardens are vast compared to average Australian home gardens, totally organic from my observations. The locals grow most of their food requirements and sell the surplus. Many food and other crops are grown in the village gardens, including a wide variety of bananas, coconuts, sweet potatoes, sago, yams, taro, pawpaw, mangoes, breadfruit, citrus, guava, melons,

The contribution of Anne Dollin

It is fitting to acknowledge here the foundational work by Dr Anne Dollin on *Austroplebeia cincta*. Anne confirmed the identification, recorded their unique nest architecture, showed the importance of their long entrance tube for defence against ants, photographed with colour patterns of the three castes (including the image of the queen on the right). Read her account of this biological detective work in two free online articles on her website: <https://www.aussiebee.com.au/aussiebeeonline022.pdf>.

pineapple, peanuts, a large variety of green vegetables and betel nut. It was a great pleasure to be given the grand tour of these beautiful organic gardens, with their owners pointing out various stingless and solitary bee locations, and a chatter of village children running ahead and trailing behind.

Go to the Events sections to find out about the half-day native bee workshops that Matthew presents at the BeeZotted shed, Sunshine Coast, Qld.



Anne Dollin, Megan Halcroft and Jenny Shanks inspecting a colony of *Austroplebeia cincta* education in an observation hive at Western Sydney University in December 2012.

Members of ANBA are invited to promote their events, services and products in the Cross-Pollinator. Please send us details of your upcoming events, services and products and we will add them here (Email to comoff@australiannativebee.org.au).

Native Bee Workshops, events & seminars

During restrictions on gatherings aimed at limiting the spread of corona virus, ANBA is holding online events.

The monthly live online events of the Australian Native Bee Association

To join simply go to the ANBA Facebook page at the date and time and you will see the Live event. <https://www.facebook.com/Australian.Native.Bee.Association>. The Live events are interactive, attendees can ask questions by typing them on the post during the live stream. Other events are pre-recorded and posted at the time advertised.

Depending on the limitations to public gatherings at the time, events may also be open to some physical attendees. Book your tickets for physical attendance on our website (<https://australiannativebee.org.au/events>). More details will be communicated on our Facebook page, website and mailout.

All welcome, but please show your supporting by joining our association. <https://australiannativebee.org.au/join-us>

Upcoming events

4-Oct-2020 2-3 pm. Greg and Jennifer Shea, *Our Journey with Stingless Bees*

The October monthly online event of the Australian Native Bee Association is coming to you from a Brisbane backyard. Greg and Jennifer Shea will share some of their 3-year journey with stingless bees, and to share some of what we have learned along the way as stingless beekeepers.

After a career of 47 years in the telecommunications industry as a

Technical Officer, Trainer and Contractor, Greg retired in 2014. His wife Jennifer retired from teaching a few year later and began to expand her interest in gardening. Both developed an interest in stingless bees, initially to assist with pollination, and later as an absorbing hobby and a way to encourage other people to take an interest in them too.



25-Oct-2020 1-2:30 pm. *Bees of Eora, Sydney Native Bee Art Exhibition*, hosted by Costa Georgiadis. Read more here: <https://australiannativebee.org.au/event-3902753>.

6-Dec-2020. *Hive exhibition and ANBA AGM.*

We plan to hold this event as a combined face-to-face with limited in Brisbane with a Live Stream to others. We will be able to accept nominations, questions, comments and votes from online attendees.

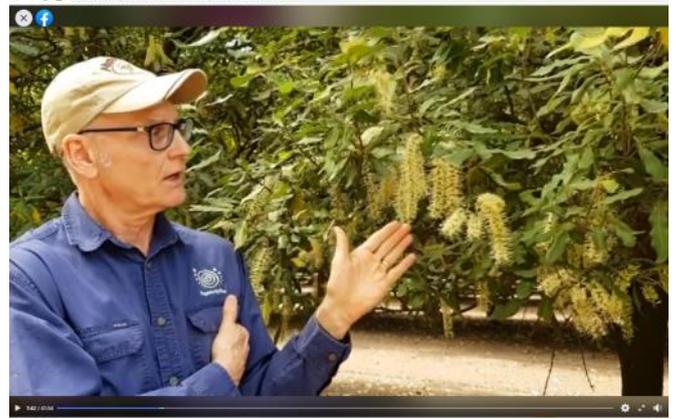
Do you have a contribution for the Cross-Pollinator? Please send text and accompanying pictures to comoff@australiannativebee.org.au

The Australian Native Bee Association Inc promotes the conservation and sustainable use of all Australian native bees. ANBA achieves that by providing resources, disseminating information, supporting members and communicating with stakeholders.

Report of the last Live meeting

6-Sep-2020 1-2 pm. Visit to a macadamia farm during flowering to learn about the intricacies of pollination

The September monthly online event of the Australian Native Bee Association came from a macadamia nut farm in full flower. Tim Heard showed us around a picturesque farm on the Sunshine Coast. He described the intricacies of pollination, how flower biology and bee behaviour interact to produce a crop. We discovered a way to manage bees, remnant vegetation and weeds on the farm for the mutual benefit of bees and food production. The event has been viewed over 2,000 times. If you missed it, click here: <https://www.facebook.com/Australian.Native.Bee.Association/videos/632121297674863>



Native bee workshops at the BeeZotted shed

Half-day native bee workshops coming up in October and November at the BeeZotted shed, Mooloolah Valley, Sunshine Coast, Qld.

When:

- Friday 16 October
- Saturday 24 October
- Wednesday 28 October
- Saturday 31 Oct
- Friday 6 Nov
- Wednesday 11 Nov

Time: 9am to 1pm, includes morning tea & damper.

Maximum four participants per workshop (COVID-safe). These mini workshops are tailored to participants' needs or skill requirements. Activities could include how to:

- educt a hive from a log or a box
- make a box
- carve your own bee-hive log sculpture
- extract honey the bee-friendly way
- find native bees in the bush or in suburbia
- attract solitary bees
- manage pests.

Workshops could also include storytelling, didgeridoo performance and honey tasting.

Investment: \$55. Bookings essential. To secure your booking and work out your best date and workshop agenda please message or phone, or email me at middle-ton.beeman@gmail.com



Wild native bees at Tullamore Farm

Saturday, 24 October 2020 from 08:30-13:00

Hosted by Tullamore Farm and Little Bee & Me

Learn about the wildlife and attractions of this unique property, including the wild native bees. Enjoy a relaxed morning tea

Alex from Little Bee and Me will introduce you to native stingless bees, their habitats and needs. Learn more about our solitary bees and how you can provide for them. We focus on how to use a bee hotel (nesting habitat) to encourage native bees into your garden.

There will be plenty of take-home ideas on how to make your garden more attractive to our native bees,

Location: Duck Creek Road Kerry, Qld

Outlay: \$65per person. Maximum of 18 attendees.

Contact Bill on 0407 516 220 or email to: billosull@gmail.com.

The
CROSS-POLLINATOR

Native Bee Workshops, events & seminars

School Incursions with the Bee Babette

Kit Prendergast, the Bee Babette, has been involved in a number of school incursions informing the next generation about our native bees and conducting workshops with the children on how to create bee hotels. She has conducted one at Beaconsfield Primary School in association with the Fremantle Industrial Arts Quarter and Eco Action (photo below) and has an upcoming incursion to North Fremantle Primary School on 18th Sept. Interested parents and teachers are welcome to get in touch if they would like a live (WA) or virtual (ie. Zoom) incursion about native bees. Contact kitprendergast21@gmail.com



Native bee presentations and bee hotel workshops

Kit Prendergast recently conducted a bee presentation and bee hotel workshop with Armadale Gosnells Landcare Group. Photos and a little review of the event can be found here:

<https://www.facebook.com/armadalegosnellslandcaregroup/posts/2573438192969200>



Crash-course to Australian Bee Taxonomy & Identifications

Kit Prendergast, has a new booklet out: A Crash-course to Australian Bee Taxonomy & Identifications by the Bee Babette!

An introductory guide to Australian native bees - a guide to how to distinguish from non-bee insect lookalikes; how to distinguish male vs. female bees; the bee families of Aus; their subfamilies, and some of the main genera. A simple, easy to read guide with a focus on images, not thick paragraphs of hard-to-read text!

Based on the successful Australian native bee Taxonomy & ID workshops help by Kit Prendergast, native bee scientist. Available as an ebook for only \$15. Email kitprendergast21@gmail.com



Spring's here! Time to bee engaged in Citizen Science

With the weather warming up, bees are starting to come out across Aus! I'd love people to start their citizen science sightings! I have a citsci project for people all over the world on bee hotels, and then one for people in WA to record when they see native bees in bushlands vs residential gardens. These citizen science projects can be accessed through the Facebook group 'Bees in the burbs', and the spreadsheets to fill in the observations can be accessed under the 'Announcements' tab as the first pinned post with a Google drive link. They can also be accessed for people outside of Facebook with the following link: <https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/OB-GFGp5FCfbOUWF6eXpyQVB6VTQ?fbclid=IwAR3dfpgvunTy5vJv510tEr1yP2RzUOV1S86z7sF9dfY1tFdrPMGtcf-Dp4>

A Crash-course to Australian Bee Taxonomy & Identifications

By Kit Prendergast, aka the Bee Babette



All photographs © Kit Prendergast, unless otherwise stated.

Bee taxonomy in Australia 'in crisis'

Amanda Hoh from ABC Radio Sydney posted an important story and dire warning this month.

Taxonomy is the discipline of identifying and naming newly discovered animals or plants. There are currently 1,600 named bees in Australia. Scientists estimate there are at least 1,000 Australian bee species yet to be discovered and named. At the current rate of discovery — about 20 new species are given names each year — it could take at least a century to find and name the remainder.

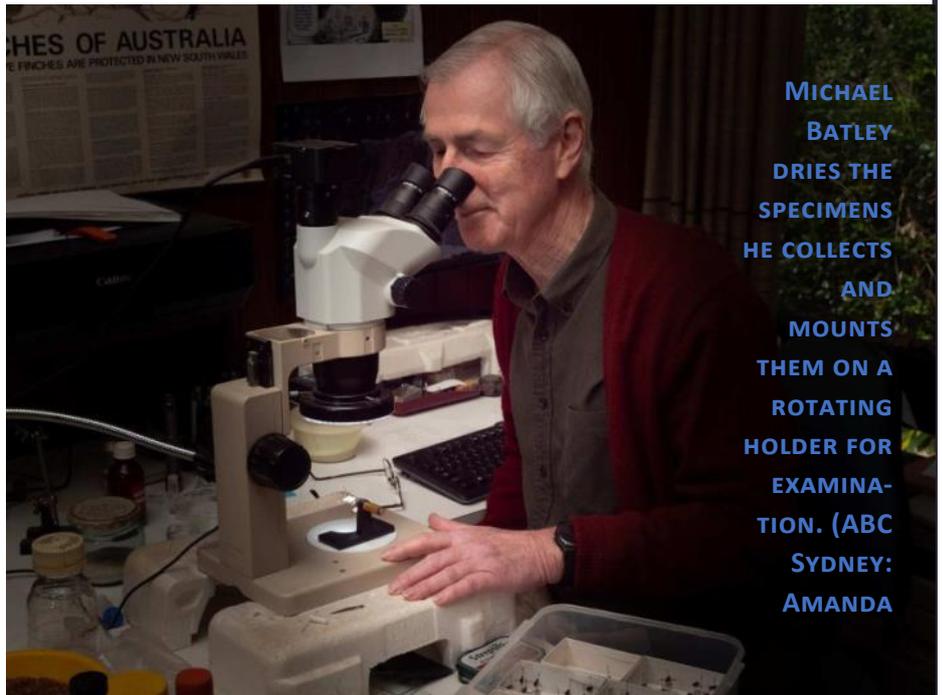
But there are only four bee taxonomists in Australia, and only Dr Ken Walker at Museums Victoria is paid. "Those bee taxonomists that we have are elderly and have a vast depository of knowledge. We really need to use them as mentors for a new generation," said Professor Thiele, director of Taxonomy Australia.

Michael Batley has been a bee taxonomist for the past 20 years and a volunteer with the Australian Museum. In that time, he has named 40 new species of bees. "On an average bee-chasing trip I could find up to 100 specimens in a day to analyse. "Not all will be new, unnamed species but they could be a new record, a new place the bee has been seen, or a male or female bee that hasn't been seen before."

Mr Batley has added some 10,000 bee specimens to the Australian Museum's collection. He knows some 600 species off the top of his head, and when out amongst the flowers he can recognise whether a bee might be a new discovery. Some discoveries lead to the discovery of a new species and Mr Batley has the honour of giving it a name. "If it's got something spectacular, like a big head, you might call it macrosax or something like that," he said. "Or you might name it after a person, or you might name it after the first place it was found."

Tobias Smith, an ecologist and bee researcher with Queensland University, has founded the only bee taxonomy training course in Australia. "Taxonomy of bees is a dying art form," he said. "It's a different part of bee science, but without taxonomists and the naming of species there's no point doing other research as we need to know the names."

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-09-10/bee-taxonomy-in-australia-a-dying-art/12647676>



**MICHAEL
BATLEY
DRIES THE
SPECIMENS
HE COLLECTS
AND
MOUNTS
THEM ON A
ROTATING
HOLDER FOR
EXAMINATION. (ABC
SYDNEY:
AMANDA**

TAXONOMISTS HOPE TO DISCOVER AND NAME 1,000 NEW BEE SPECIES IN THE NEXT FIVE YEARS.



Healthy Fossilized insect from 100 million years ago is oldest record of bee with pollen

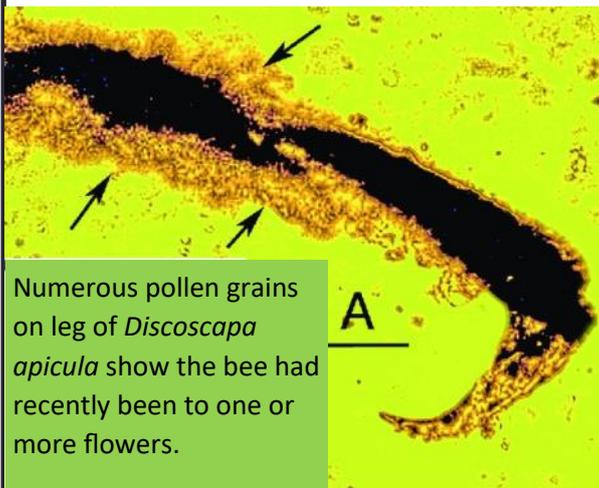
About 100 million years ago in Myanmar a female bee met a sticky end in tree resin. When the resin fossilized into amber she was preserved in excellent condition and in full 3D. She has been identified by Oregon State University researcher George Poinar Jr. as a new species, *Discoscapa apicula*, in a new family Discoscapidae. The fossilized bee shares traits with modern bees—including plumose hairs.

Professor Poinar is an international expert in using plant and animal life forms preserved in amber to learn more about the biology and ecology of the distant past. The evidence points to bees evolving from wasps about 120 million years ago. This new fossil discovery provides the first record of a bee with pollen, confirming estimates of the age of bees and dietary transition that accompanied the change from carnivores to pollen eaters. Another extraordinary aspect of this fossil is the parasitic beetle larvae in the same piece of amber. The young beetle had leapt onto the bee when it visited a flower and were hitching a ride back to the bee's nest to dine on bee larvae and

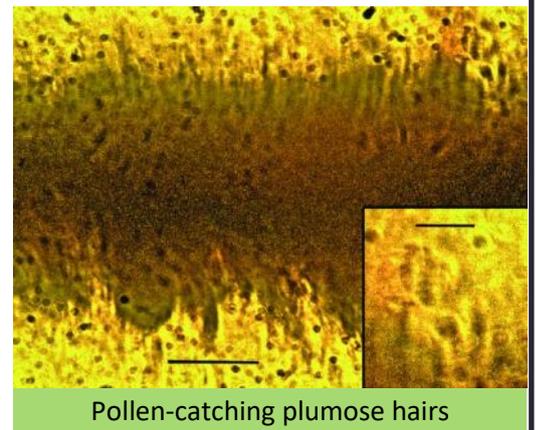


their provisions, food left by the female. This is the first record of the beetle parasites, which continue to plague modern bees today.

Photo credit: George Poinar Jr.



Numerous pollen grains on leg of *Discoscapa apicula* show the bee had recently been to one or more flowers.



Pollen-catching plumose hairs

Branch News

ANBA is a national organization but is putting down roots in the form of local branches. Local branches are how the organization can help members to learn how to conserve, utilize and enjoy native bees. Currently the six functional branches are Brisbane Rockhampton, Gladstone, Wide Bay, Sydney and Mid North Coast NSW.

Brisbane Branch News

Brisbane branch has been focussing on online events during restrictions. We have taken advantage of this by holding online events. Branch member Tim Heard spoke from a macadamia farm in September. On Sunday 4th October from 2 – 3 pm, an online event will be hosted by Greg and Jennifer Shea who will speak on “Our Journey with Stingless Bees”. Look out for the announcement of the event connection details.

Our next physical meeting will be at THECA on 25 October 1 - 3:30 pm, when we will watch the online live screening of the Art Show, “Bees of Eora”. We will also hold our Branch AGM on that occasion. Please come forward if you have any interest in a role on running the Brisbane branch. Chair Dean Haley josephhale67@gmail.com would love to hear from you.

Gladstone Branch News

Following up on report in last edition of our successful grant application with Fitzroy Basin Association to conduct a native bee workshop, we have now signed a letter of agreement and looking at holding the workshop in the near future. Our ANBA President Tim Heard has offered his services to visit Gladstone and conduct the workshop which we are very excited about. We are holding our AGM this Saturday which will be held at the residence of "Queen Bee" Floss Henderson, once business is out of the way, we are looking forward to some friendly conversation and Floss showing the group her own bee hives.

Samantha Redshaw our Branch Chairman has just recently reopened her business Redshaw Native Bees after a bit of a break and had one of our members Liz Case and her daughter Georgia along for the day to assist with some maintenance and hive splits. From all accounts they found the TH a little feisty and nippy.

Doug Stephan has been spending his recuperation time playing with his new toy a 10x & 20x magnification microscope with LED lighting. Looking forward to seeing what you discover Doug.

Father's day in my own household saw a new species yet to be identified finding a home in my garden with the tea tree orchids.

Our local Boyne Tannum Mens Shed have commenced making OATH hives for purchase using a donation of recycled timber and they are progressing well.

More photos on our Facebook page **ANBA Gladstone Branch**

Ian Anderson

Liz & Georgia might have to invest in some PPE



Doug with his new toy



New species in garden



Some of the near finished product



Wide Bay Branch News

The ANBA – Wide Bay Branch will be holding its Annual General Meeting on 2:30pm Saturday 10th October at 127 Stockyard Rd, North Isis QLD 4660. As it is the AGM, a new executive will be voted in. If you are interested in getting involved, putting your hand up for a position or just being part of the voting, then contact Adam Kent, Vice President – Wide Bay Branch,

Adam@simpsonfarms.com.



Tony nursing a brood of *T. hockingsi*

Form a new local branch

Your Australian Native Bee Association Inc. (ANBA) aims to build a dynamic member-based organisation dedicated to protecting all native bees (not only stingless bees), protecting our members and providing great learning resources and social experiences. We are working with many to build a national network.

Current branches are Brisbane, Rockhampton, Gladstone, Wide Bay, Sydney and Mid North Coast NSW. Expressions of interest have come from Blue Mountains, Bathurst, Coffs Harbour, Canberra, Cairns, Gold Coast/Scenic Rim, Darwin and Adelaide.

For details about forming a local branch go here: <https://australiannativebee.org.au/Form-a-new-local-branch>.

Branch Contacts

Brisbane branch

Meet on the first Sunday of each month at 1pm. THECA Hall, Chapel Hill.

Chairperson: Dean Haley, josephhale67@gmail.com

Secretary / Treasurer: Ian Driver, ian.driver@ged.qld.gov.au

Communications Officer: Wayne Berry, wberry@mysteryfog.net

Events coordinator: Tim Heard, pres@australiannativebee.org.au

Committee member: Peter Stone, treas@australiannativebee.org.au

Representative to ANBA Management Committee: Dean Haley, josephhale67@gmail.com

Rockhampton branch

Chairperson: Martin Schlick, martin.schlick@googlemail.com

Secretary: Jacque Gorman, gorman.jacque@yahoo.com.au

Treasurer: Murray Smith, dinmuz@bigpond.com

Representative to ANBA Management Committee: Martin Schlick, martin.schlick@googlemail.com

Gladstone branch

Chairperson: Samantha Redshaw, redshawnb@gmail.com

Secretary/Treasurer: Ian and Tina Anderson, iganderson50@bigpond.com

Events Co-Ordinator: Chris Fahey, chrisfahey80@yahoo.com

Representative to ANBA Management Committee : Samantha Redshaw, redshawnb@gmail.com

Wide Bay branch

Chairperson: Tony Harvey, 0488073116, wide.bay.stingless.bees@hotmail.com

Deputy Chairperson: Adam Kent, 0488268245, akent@y7mail.com

Secretary: Vacant, temporarily filled by Adam Kent, 0488268245, akent@y7mail.com

Treasurer: Brendan Macpherson, 0404122243, brendan@brendio.com

Representative to ANBA Management Committee: Tony Harvey, 0488073116, wide.bay.stingless.bees@hotmail.com

Sydney branch

Co-Chairs: Natalie Er natalieer@hotmail.com / Dan Smailes, dan@sydneynativebees.com

Secretary: Michelle Carrick, michelleacarrick@gmail.com

Treasurer: Lisha Hammond-Walker, Lisha.walker@gmail.com

Conservation Co-ordinator: Sam Higgins, sam.higgins@outlook.com.au

Communications & Promotion: Dan Smailes, dan@sydneynativebees.com

Youth Mentor: Isaac Mayer, to be confirmed

Cultural Perspective & Education Coordinator: Michelle Carrick, michelleacarrick@gmail.com

Art & Film Coordinator: Andrew Messer, messerphotos@gmail.com

Contact: community@sydneynativebees.com

Representative to ANBA Management Committee: Dan Smailes, dan@sydneynativebees.com

Mid North Coast NSW branch

Meet on the first Thursday of each month at 7pm. Laurieton United Services Club.

Chairperson: Diane Norris, diane.beewild@gmail.com, 0422 639 336, 02 6559 4298

Secretary: David Crofts, dicrofts@gmail.com, 0407 355 750

Treasurer: Elizabeth Crowley, elizacrowley@yahoo.com.au

Communication Officer: Derek Ayriss, derekayriss@hotmail.com

Representative to ANBA Management Committee: Diane Norris, diane.beewild@gmail.com

