

GOLD COAST  
AMATEUR



BEEKEEPERS  
SOCIETY INC.

# The ins and outs of running a hobby bee club

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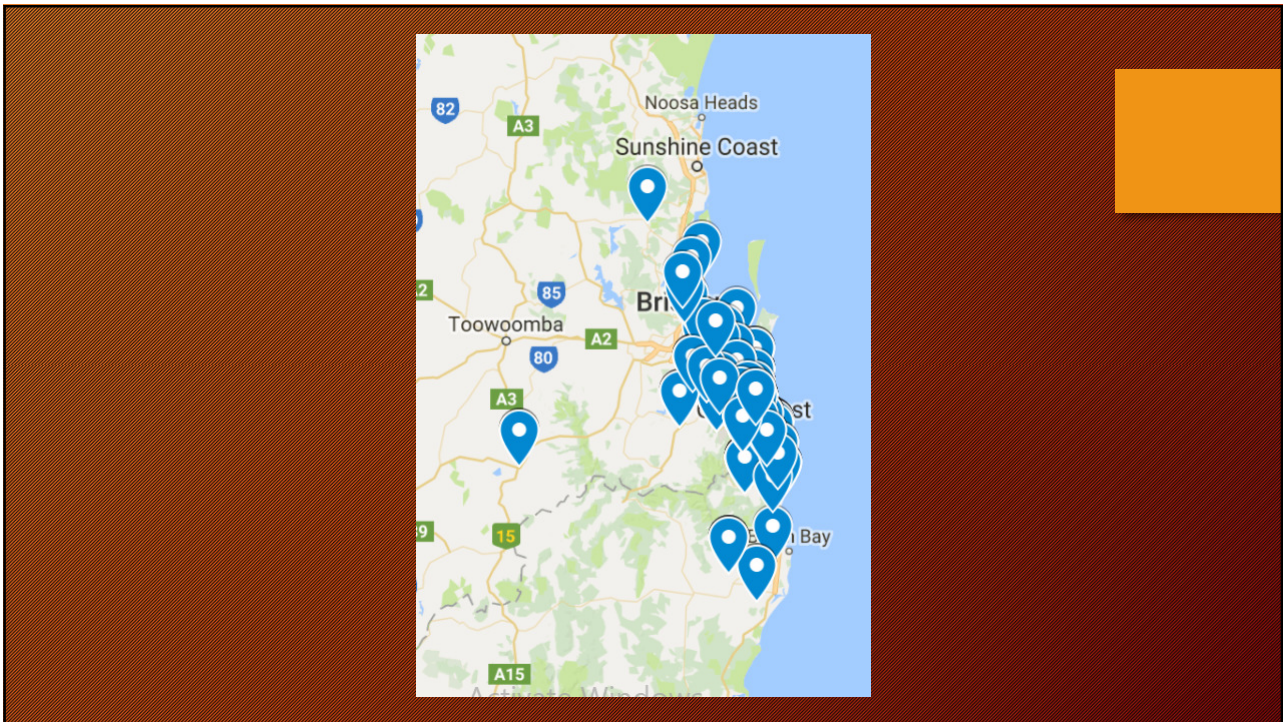
President Gold Coast Amateur Beekeepers Society inc.

## About GCABS



- Established 1979 after a TAFE course
- Gold Coast's largest and longest running recreational beekeeper group
- Registered charity and NFP-TDG status, Friend of AHBIC
- Incorporated with a formal Constitution and structure
- Operated entirely by volunteers
- N = 335 Members as at 29.6.2018
- Over 650 followers on social media







## Background



## Outline for presentation

1. keeping up with the wants and needs of the membership
2. catering to a diverse membership of old hands and newbies
3. balancing the practical and theoretical, while changing with the season
4. growing with the group and building a future vision



## 1. Keeping up with the wants and needs of the membership

- Non commercial sector holds big responsibility!
- Non-accredited training: over 150 trained since Sept 2016
- Intake for Beginners, introductory courses 2018
- Field days
- Talks and presentations
- Honey Month
- World Bee Day
- Monthly meetings
- Equipment and construction
- Balance social, theoretical and practical



## The Brood Box

- The Flow Hive Classic comes with standard foundation-less frames for the Brood box to allow for natural comb formation.
- Check your brood box with an experienced beekeeper regularly for health, pests and diseases.





## 2. Catering to a diverse membership of old hands and newbies

- The first rule of beekeeping is ...





### 3. Balancing the practical and theoretical, while changing with the season







#### 4. Growing with the group and building a future vision

- Affiliation with QBA, AHBIC: a seat at the table
  - BOLT online training course
  - Cert 3 Beekeeping TOCAL college
  - BQUAL
  - Labelling and packaging requirements
  - Code of Practice
  - Specialised training to serve members' needs
- Education has the greatest potential for impact re biosecurity compliance*





## Previous presidents

- A. Betts - up to 2014
- J. Polley 17<sup>th</sup> August, 2014
- L. Thomson 21<sup>st</sup> August, 2016
- K. Knox 20th August 2017





## Thanks

- AHBIC Organising Committee
- East Coast Conferences
- Delegates from GCABS:
  - Lyle
  - Leonie
  - Kate
  - Tom

