



## Apiary report for 13 February 2018 committee meeting

Mid to late spring has seen the summer harvest and early preparations for autumn apiary closedown:

1. extraction of 403 kg of honey and 5.4 kg beeswax (13 January and 27 January training days)
2. removal and wax moth proof storage of seven supers of dried stickies in 52 L Keji containers
3. examination of about 1/3 of all colonies confirming absence of AFB and EFB and finding of chalk brood in two colonies (one in a stressed nuc taken from symptom free J01). This signals the importance of requeening these colonies with queens with hygienic progeny record (Malfroy Italians) since fungal spore prevalence probably remains high apiary wide
4. set up of nine nucs for requeening 11.02.2018 for queens scheduled to arrive this Wednesday 14.02.2018
5. ordering of Ultster Observation Hive from Handcrafted Beehives in Melbourne. Delivery will around Easter and we might get woodworking types (I've spoken to John Grubb) over to meet 'Our Maker' when he hand delivers the obs hive.

There is an excellent article on the web on construction of the original Langstroth Hive not dissimilar to the modern FD Langstroth [Peter Sieling. P. (1996). Build the original Langstroth Hive. *Bee Culture* (1996) <http://www.bee-culture.com/build-original-langstroth-hive/>]. So maybe that is a project for the future or one we could commission Chris Hodson at Handcrafted Beehives to make for us

6. entering of recent apiary inspection records to Hivekeepers. Access to the whole record by the association remains problematic
7. supporting 17 March 2018 club field day arrangements with a mini extraction event (both extraction of Langstroth frames for J18 and KTP frames from honey-bound J06) complemented by packing, labelling and sale of honey. Volunteers from amongst the 'heavy lifter' crew have been sought

While the apiary is performing well at present, much disease checking, gear removal and requeening remains to be undertaken. The small dedicated apiary 'heavy lifter' team has been of great value in keeping JWA in shape, mapiary management much less of a chore. Thier efforts need acknowledgement.

Alan Wade  
Apiary Manager

Christine Joannides  
Assistant Apiary Manager

Frank Derwent  
Honorary Apiary Manager