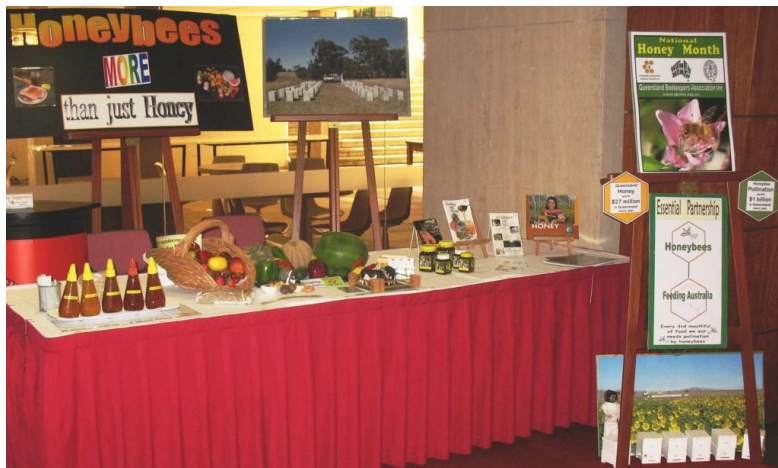


Honey Month Honey Month May 2014



QBA's Display and Official Launch at the Brisbane Parliamentary Annexe



QBA had a most successful, weeklong, public Display in Brisbane's Parliamentary Annexe in the first week of May – a Parliamentary sitting week - with the "Official Launch of Honey Month in Queensland" held on the Wednesday evening.

State's leaders and decision makers. One person was heard commenting that they had been unaware of the extent and importance of the beekeeping industry but will now take greater interest in anything he sees on QBA or bees. This is what Honey Month is all about.



As hoped, we captured the interest of many of our

Ian Rickuss, Member for Lockyer, gave strong support and interest to this event to which the Industry is most grateful. Many others also assisted greatly, namely, two honey packing companies, QBA Branches and Members.



The content of the QBA Display and the enthusiasm and commitment shown by industry members in attending every day of the week, caught the attention and interest of many Politicians. The Displays showed:

- the many aspects of honey, beekeeping and Research
- Dr Cheryl McCarthy's surveillance hive
- many fruits, vegetables, nuts and seeds reliant on honeybee pollination
- six (6) varieties of Qld honeys for tasting
- commercial displays from Bush Honey and Capilano

The Official Launch saw more than 15 Politicians attend, each showing a great interest in the Industry and enthusiastically chatting with its Members.



The evening was opened by Ian Rickuss MP followed by interesting, informative and positive speeches by QBA President, Robert Dewar and Hon John McVeigh MP, Minister



Politicians, industry people, Researchers and Packers then enjoyed tasting Honey Mead and chatting over a light supper



Throughout Queensland There were many activities throughout Qld including ---

- **Cairns & District Beekeeping Club** – displays in the Cairns City, Stratford (Cairns suburb), Mareeba, Atherton and Malanda libraries, Kuranda Honey House and a local Barber shop
- **Townsville and District Beekeeping Club** – library display, free screening of the film "More than Honey" at a local cinema (with 170 non-beekeeping people attending), participating in and promoting beekeeping at local festivals, and a two page article in the local Newspaper.
- **Valley Bees / Gympie** – library display, launch of Athol Craig's book "Nature's Gifts", morning tea with a special "bee cake", an information session on "How Bees Make Honey and What is Honey" that created great interest and a display at the Gympie Garden Show with honey recipes given away.
- **Wide Bay QBA Branch** – extra promotion at the Gympie, Bundaberg and Maryborough Shows
- **Sunshine Coast Beekeeping Club** – library displays at Coolool, Noosa and Cooroy
- **Bayside Beekeeping Club** – library display at Victoria Point
- **Ipswich & West Moreton Beekeeping Association** – extra promotion at the Ipswich Show

There have also been many smaller activities including:

- bee activities at Playgroups
- morning teas with honey recipes
- talks to small, local groups
- the supply of honey for the tea and coffee at a small restaurant (with information included on that particular honey).
- At least two beekeeping groups have library space booked for beekeeping displays over the next few months.

- At the next meeting of one Group, members will be bringing afternoon tea with the recipe, which must contain honey and NO sugar.

It is hoped that all the 2014 Honey Month events in Qld have sparked a greater interest and knowledge of this industry and the vital role bees play in everyday life and in particular, Food Security.

What will you be doing for Honey Month in 2015?