

AUGUST 2026



NEWSLETTER



Every new program, it is such a joy to meet so many interested and interesting women. Without exception, this year's new-bees bring a range of skills and interests to our Bee Queens community and it is going to be a fantastic year of learning together. Starting in Winter gives us a chance to meet each other and ease ourselves into the bee season ahead. For workshop 1, we met at the Rosny library with participants from across every year of this program joining us. We spent a lot of time drinking tea and meeting each other as well as shopping at both Kristen and Lisa's beautiful stalls (happy Beeday Lisa!). We also spent time familiarising ourselves with different aspects of the bee colony and hive parts and after our morning tea, and after some tech issues (thanks Sarah for stepping up!) we also watched 'The Secrets of the Bees'. A wonderful start for the year.



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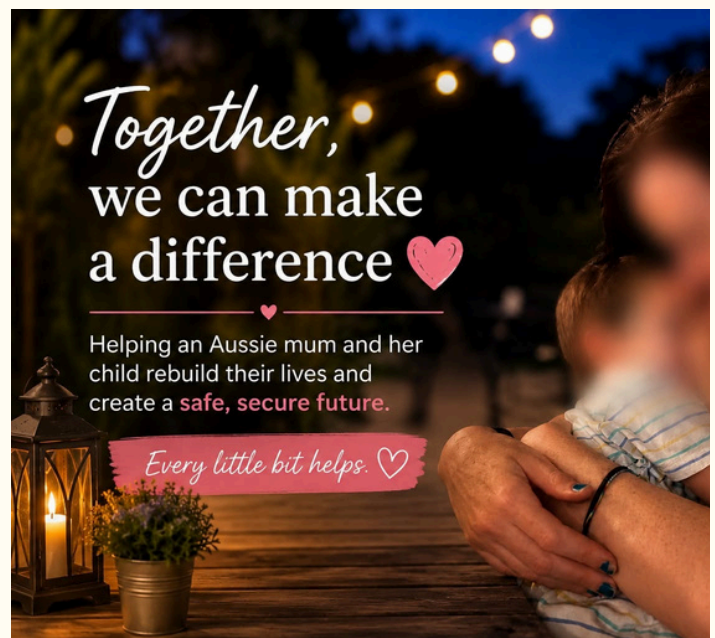
FUNDRAISING

As a community, we are connected with a gorgeous woman and her child who are currently in a very difficult situation. Although for legal reasons I am unable to speak about the details of what is happening, I can say that with little notice, they have had to leave Australia and start all over again overseas with no more than the clothes they could carry. They have no income, no support network and face a very real risk of homelessness. As a community, our first 2 raffles will assist her, and I am also part of a small team organising a trivia night with excellent prizes that you are invited to attend (October, date TBC). In the meantime, if you can, please donate directly to this campaign [here](#).



APITHERAPY HUT

The benefits of custodianship with bees extends beyond honey and pollination, with many cultures across the world recognising the health benefits of bee-ing in the presence of bees. This includes the vibration of bee frequencies and the air that emanates from a healthy colony. For some people, putting on a bee suit is not possible, but the benefits of the colony can still be experienced through innovations like a 'Bee hut'. Entrepreneurs in Australia and abroad are building accessible huts so that everyone can safely experience these health benefits in person. Bees are also respected in the process, and hives are safely placed beneath the hut under bee proof screens. Is this something that you have experienced before?



HAVE YOUR SAY

Consultation is now open on a new draft Tasmanian Import Risk Analysis for varroa mite (Varroa destructor). The analysis includes proposed import conditions for apiary products. Varroa mite is one of the most damaging pests of honey bees in the world. Tasmania is still free of varroa mite, and we want to keep it that way. Supported by strong biosecurity measures, Tasmania's island status gives us a unique opportunity to remain free of this pest.

You can find out more about this consultation on the [FAQs page](#). Submissions close at 5:00pm on 16 September 2026.

