

APRIL 2026



# NEWSLETTER



What a strange season we have had - culminating in a mixed result in our honey harvesting across the state - including Leatherwood. This weird result however, didn't impact Workshop 8, where we had a chance to learn how to extract honey with a number of the Bee Queens stepping up to demonstrate - including Selina (pictured above). Deirdre also brought along the Bee Queens new (secondhand) electric extractor and showed us how to get the best results from it. We were kept busy all day experimenting with different kinds of extraction equipment and working out favourite implements before taking home a small jar of rainforest honey. Thanks to the Calverton Hall committee for hiring this space at a community rate - we are thinking next year this will become an extraction day for queens to come along and extract honey from your backyards.



# WORLD BEE DAY

The World Bee Day morning tea is an annual event the Bee Queens host to raise funds for the When Bee Foundation. This year, we are partnering with the Bridgewater LAN and Material Institute to bring a day of mini workshops, a small market, morning tea and a chance to network with other beekeepers in a gorgeous garden setting. Everyone is welcome to this event with a gold coin donation at the door. 100% of funds raised will go to the foundation for bee research. If you would like to run a small workshop or host a stall please reach out.



## MAGIC PROPOLIS

Sunshine Coast University researchers and beekeepers have discovered a remarkable compound in the glue bees use to seal their homes. It's hoped the compound can be developed and commercially marketed to heal scarring, injuries and burns. The potential impact is enormous, researchers say. Researcher Lisa Randall reported that hypertrophic scarring affects over 100 million people every year worldwide. In developing countries, there are millions more people who are suffering. The breakthrough could be a life-changing alternative to current treatments, which can be long, not commonly available, and come with severe side effects, reducing pain, immobility and psychological distress.



## BEEES UNDERGROUND

A quiet cemetery in upstate New York is proving far from still as new research shows it's buzzing with millions of bees living just beneath the surface. The East Lawn Cemetery in Ithaca is home to an estimated 5.5 to 5.6 million ground-nesting bees, making it one of the largest and possibly oldest known bee aggregations ever recorded, researchers at Cornell University found. The bees belong to the species *Andrena regularis*, or the regular mining bee, a solitary species that nests in the ground rather than forming hives. While bees are often associated with large colonies such as what is seen with honeybees, scientists say roughly 70 percent of bee species in the United States actually live underground and operate independently. read more [here](#).

