
Bee Ambassador Program

Saturday 8 September to
Monday 10 September 2018



FOOD
SECURITY
NEEDS
BEE
SECURITY



WHEN BEE
FOUNDATION

A message from the CEO

Thank you for your interest in becoming a Bee Ambassador. This initiative has evolved from listening to the many bee advocates who volunteer their time as passionate and dedicated campaigners for bees. Being endlessly uplifted by their stories, I wanted to provide an opportunity to share these initiatives with people who are similarly enthusiastic about bees and inspired to make a difference.

Henry Ford once said *"Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success."* This Bee Ambassador Program is just a beginning, but I hope that it will be the beginning of great things ahead. Any future direction will be determined by you — the participants.

When Bee Foundation is providing a vehicle with a bit of fuel to get things started. It is up to you to decide if you want to drive it and where you want it to go.

The program speakers are still being finalised. I will update the program details on the website as the speakers are confirmed. It is certainly shaping up to be a great few days and I am really looking forward to it. Hope you are too. See you there.



Fiona Chambers
CEO, When Bee Foundation

**"Alone we can do so little,
together we can do so much."**

..... Helen Keller

Bee Ambassador Program

Linking bee volunteer advocates from diverse backgrounds:

- **Beekeepers**
- **Researchers**
- **Farmers**
- **Land & resource managers**
- **Other interested supporters**

Objectives

- To unite and support advocates in pursuit of a shared Bee Purpose.
- To leverage the collective impact through increasing the scale, reach and momentum of bee advocacy activities.

Residential Training Aims

- Increase awareness of bee research and its importance in Australia
- Encourage learning, cooperation and innovation
- Develop advocacy skills and practices
- Enable close connections to be formed between bee advocacy leaders
- Facilitate the sharing of great ideas and initiatives
- Identify new project activities for implementation
- Prioritise resources that support advocacy

Program Leaders



Fiona Chambers
CEO, When Bee Foundation

Fiona has 30 years business experience in producing and marketing agricultural and horticultural commodities both in Australia and overseas. Before taking up the position of CEO with the When Bee Foundation, Fiona lectured in Business Management and Marketing at Marcus Oldham College in Geelong, Victoria and convened the Marcus Oldham Rural Leadership Program and the Apple and Pear Australia Ltd Emerging Leaders Program. These experiences allowed Fiona to develop extensive networks spanning multiple rural industries. She remains actively involved in training rural leaders and facilitating rural sector innovation.

Fiona's background in organic industry development saw her travel to 12 countries as part of a Churchill Fellowship in 2003. She also travelled to UK, France and Belgium on an ISS Fellowship in 2010 to study free range pig production and welfare standards in Europe. She has led numerous farm and agribusiness tours in Australia, China and New Zealand and has delivered papers at national and international conferences on organic farming, marketing and the global conservation of farm livestock breeds for food security.

Fiona has received numerous rural achiever awards including Victorian Farm Entrepreneur of the Year, Australian Home Based Business Award (Food and Farming) and the Delicious Heritage Food Award. Fiona is Fellow of the Williamson Community Leadership Program.



Mike Stephens
Director, Meridian Agriculture

Mike is the founding Director of Meridian Agriculture (formerly MS&A, founded 1983), which is a broad based agricultural consulting company providing advice, training and services to farmers, agribusiness and government. Mike has 35 years' experience in human resource management and provides consulting advice to major agribusiness companies.

As a concurrent activity with MS&A, for fifteen years Mike was the Executive Officer of the Beef Improvement Association of Australia. In addition he was a Director of Working With People Pty Ltd and Executive Officer of The Victorian Farmers Federation Employers Association. He is Chairman of the Churchill Trust Victorian Primary Industry Selection Committee, the Chairman of Country Education Program (CEP) and a former Chairman of the Ag Institute Australia. Mike has been involved in the design, delivery and management of the Marcus Oldham Rural Leadership Program since its commencement.

Mike, who is a Churchill Fellow, was awarded the inaugural Marcus Oldham College Excellence in Agriculture Award and is a Fellow of The Ag Institute Australia and the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Mike holds a Diploma of Farm Management, and a MSc. He is an accredited advisor with Family Business Australia and is currently a PhD candidate studying Family Farm Business Succession.

Program Outline

Day 1:

Saturday 8th September

Session 1: Setting the scene (8.30 start)

Session 2: Getting to know you and your bee-inspired activities

Session 3: Advocacy skills and making change happen

Session 4: Managing conflict, difficult people and difficult situations

Session 5: Bee Influencers Dinner—diverse panel of speakers (TBC)
(concludes at 9.30pm)

Looking to the horizon, what are the challenges and opportunities?

Day 2:

Sunday 9th September

Session 6: Building Effective Teams (8.30am start)

Session 7: Understanding the place of Vision & Values

Session 8: Conducting meetings that work

Session 9: Where to from here?

Session 10: Dinner Speaker (TBC) (concludes at 9.30pm)

Day 3:

Monday 10th September

Bus tour: Depart Mary MacKillop at 8am

Macquarie University Andrew Barron Bee Lab:

Specialising in understanding the bees brain and how they learn through development of a neural map. Understanding colony collapse disorder.

More information:

✉ andrewbarron.org

✉ youtube.com/watch?time_continue=7&v=p2aKTV8UoQk

Western Sydney University, Robert Spooner Hart:

Specialising in utilising bees for crop pollination. Projects have included the exploration and use of native bees in commercial crop pollination, both in the field and in poly houses. Understanding the impact of UV and polarisation influences using glass houses and the impact these have on Bee behaviour and pollination efficiency.

More information:

✉ researchdata.andis.org.au/robert-spooner-hart/815028

When Bee Foundation research apiary:

Linking bee clubs and researchers to facilitate learning. Case study example.

Sydney University Bee Laboratory:

Ben Oldroyd and his team at the Social Insects Laboratory. Specialising in the behavioural, evolutionary and population genetics of bees to understand how bee societies evolved.

More information:

✉ sydney.edu.au/science/biology/socialinsects/

Travel at conclusion of event

Depart Sydney University at 4.30pm. (People can depart from here.)

Bus will drop people at Sydney airport at around 5pm (subject to traffic).

Bus will return to Mark MacKillop Place at around 6pm for those people who have left cars there (subject to traffic and bookings). Please confirm if you need to return to Mary MacKillop.

