

# FOR BEES RETRO RETREATS

## Logan Shire Library Native Bee Retro Retreats Display

The recycled retro TV's used in this display have been built with much enjoyment using the natural nesting materials for the solitary native bees and beneficial insects. The old TV's have been recommissioned with a message for important viewing. Instead of them being dumped, and not wanted anymore they continue to serve!!

Generally people are only aware of the common honey bee. There are around 2000 species of solitary native bees many of which nest and raise their young in tiny hollows in natural old wood and dried plants, as in the samples used to furnish the TV's.

There are 11 species of Australian native hive bees and then theres the European honey hive bee.

Along with the bees are the beneficial insects which some will happily share accommodation in a bee hotel.

There is much concern that the bees and insects have declined due to deforestation, urbanisation and the over use of poisons. Our food crops, wonderful Australian native flora, home gardens etc is dependent on the bees and insects for pollination.

## How can you help?

We can help the native bees and insects in our urban gardens by providing a corner of the yard left undisturbed with thought given to the materials enabling female bees to find safe nesting.

- Place a bee hotel in your garden - they are easy to build or we can build one for you!
  - Plant flowers, flowering shrubs and trees which they can source and forage and feed on the nectar and pollen.
  - Don't use chemicals or pesticides. There are safe alternatives information easily available on the net. A clover lawn is now becoming fashionable, it shows you care!!
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