



Club website currently under construction

Facebook Page

[https://www.facebook.com/Macarthur-Beekeepers- Association](https://www.facebook.com/Macarthur-Beekeepers-Association)

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# The Macarthur Beekeeper

*Views expressed in the newsletter do not necessarily represent the views of the committee, the members, or the Association*

## President's Message - Caroline

Dear Beekeepers,

Suddenly the weather has changed. If it is cold for us, I'm sure that the bees are feeling it too. Having said that remember to do your autumn inspection at the warmest time of the day and when the wind is still. It is really easy to kill the brood if the frames are let out too long.

But look up at the trees. Many of them are in flower. The little bit of rain was enough to get them started. It can mean that there will be nectar available for the bees during what is usually a non-flowering period. Having said that you should still leave sufficient honey in the hive for the bees over winter. Four full frames should be enough.

Unfortunately, it was too windy on our field day and Torsten only looked in a couple of hives. Depending on the weather Torsten will do the autumn check probably before the June field day. Our field days in winter centre around maintenance of the apiary and equipment. We will show you how to assemble boxes and frames. However much you do in winter you never really seem prepared for spring.

As you know our website has been down. Fortunately, Ed has liaised with the ABA and will soon have a new site ready. Thanks Ed.

Although technically not a honey activity, one member of our club recently entered and won the watercolour section of the Camden art prize. Congratulations Ricarda, not only for winning but for your highly commended on your other entry.

I noticed many trees in flower at the Mt Annan botanic gardens last Friday and they were full of bees, (see photo).

Hoping to see you at the meeting.

Regards  
Caroline





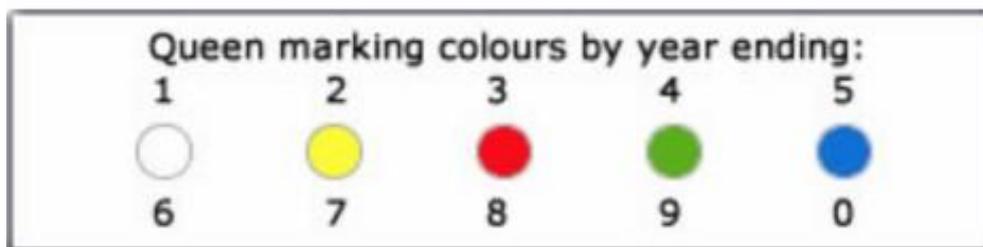
### Buzzing Bee Cake-Pops – Yum!

These extremely cute white chocolate buzzing bee cake-pops not only look adorable, they taste delicious too, making them is fairly straight forward and they are perfect for a kid's birthday party.

<https://www.womensweeklyfood.com.au/recipes/buzzing-bee-cake-pops-18212?>

Ingredients	Method
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 Cups firmly packed cake crumbs (See note below)</li> <li>• ½ Cup vanilla frosting</li> <li>• 2 375g packets white choc melts</li> <li>• Yellow food colouring</li> <li>• 18 Paddle-Pop sticks</li> <li>• 100g Melted dark chocolate</li> <li>• 1 Liquorice strap</li> <li>• Edible icing pen, black.</li> </ul> <p>NOTE: For the cake crumbs: Prepare a 340g butter cake packet mix following packet instructions. Cool then crumble cake into crumbs. Or you can save time and crumble a ready-made madeira cake.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. In a large bowl, combine crumbs and frosting. Roll level tablespoons of mixture into balls. Place on tray and freeze 30 minutes.</li> <li>2. Place melts in a large microwave-safe jug, reserving 18 pieces for wings. Microwave on medium (50% power) in 30-second bursts, stirring between each burst, until melted and smooth. Stir through a few drops of yellow food colouring.</li> <li>3. Dip the tip of a paddle-pop stick into chocolate melts and insert into a cake ball, pushing halfway through. Stand upright in a styrofoam cake block or tall glass. Repeat with remaining sticks and cake balls. Allow to set (10 minutes). Coat balls in chocolate. Allow to set and repeat.</li> <li>4. Pour melted dark chocolate into a small zip-lock bag, pushing to one corner. Snip a small tip off corner. Pipe a zigzag pattern over each ball to make bee stripes.</li> <li>5. Cut-reserved melts in half. Press two halves onto each ball for wings. Using or scissors, cut small pieces of liquorice for nose. Attach to face with a little melted chocolate. Draw on eyes with gel pen. Allow to set.</li> </ol>

## International Queen Marking Colours



2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 etc.

Have you noticed the colour of membership cards are the same as the queen colours? We have a clever ABA.

(Anna)

## Calling all volunteers



**“The meaning of life is to find your gift. The purpose of life is to give it away.”** William Shakespeare

Our club relies heavily on volunteers to keep things going. Every bit helps and getting involved can be a lot of fun.

If the volunteer chairs are empty our community does not benefit from your smile or beekeeping experience.

Please consider how you can become involved and assist in making us a better club for everyone.

## ABA Beekeeping Invention Competition.

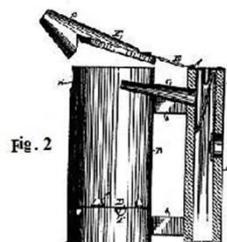
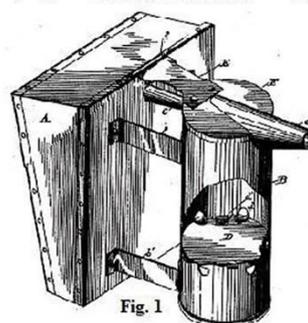
Have you devised a gadget or device that makes beekeeping life easier? We'd love to hear about it.

Share your inspiration and you could be celebrating it it is named ABA invention of 2019. Just imagine that! Entries must be submitted by 5pm on May 20<sup>th</sup> 2019.

Full details and the entry form available at:

<https://www.beekeepers.asn.au/news/2019/4/24/best-beekeeping-invention-2019-contest?>

June 28, 1892. A. G. HILL. BEE SMOKING APPARATUS. 478,006



## Rainbow Bee-Eater

*Merops ornatus* Meropidae

The Rainbow Bee-Eater is a spectacular bird. With its green, blue, chestnut and yellow plumage, its slim build, slender curved bill and distinctive streamers that extend from the end of its tail, it is simply beautiful. Bee-Eaters are a familiar sight in many lightly-timbered parts of mainland Australia, where they often perch on fence-posts or overhead wires, then launch after flying insects, flying swiftly, sometimes with rapid twists and turns, before snapping the insect in its bill, and returning to the perch to eat it.



## Reasons Why Beekeeping is Awesome And Why You Should Start Too

(Original article by Katy, April 17, 2019 at [www.BeekeepingBasics.com](http://www.BeekeepingBasics.com))

Beekeeping is among the most relaxing and beautiful hobbies you can have. It is becoming more and more popular as it has many positive effects and influences on our life and on our



surroundings. In addition, read and learn why beekeeping is awesome and why you should start as soon as possible.

### The honey

This is among the obvious reasons why most of the people have become beekeepers. Honey is very different when we make it ourselves, instead of when we buy it from a store. Many beekeepers have witnessed this. Besides the taste, there are a lot of additional beauty and benefits from the use of honey, especially if we make it on our own.

### Bees are stimulators for your flowers

When starting beekeeping be prepared for a fuller and richer garden. Bees will feed on the plants in your garden. The flowers will also benefit from the pollination and they will grow faster and more beautiful. If you are a fan of a rich garden, with a lot of flowers, vegetables, and other plants, bees will be your new best friend.

### A day spent beekeeping is like a day at the spa

Many beekeepers are afraid of the bees at the very beginning. But, they all say, that this is lasting only for a few minutes. When you hear that buzzing sound, and when you have the bees landing on your suit, you will be faced with one of the most relaxing moments in life. Bees are not at all aggressive. They will provide you with the best and most relaxing hobby that you will enjoy.

### It is an investment that will repay

If you are worried about your investment being repaid, you should know that beekeeping is that kind of investment that is repayable. Besides selling honey and beeswax, you can also sell some of the bees. Bees multiply really fast so you can sell them without any problems. Even more, bees are in decline so by doing this you will spread beekeeping and will help and save the bees.

## Anyone can be a beekeeper

No matter if you are younger or older, beekeeping is for everyone and you can learn it. Even more, if you are retired beekeeping can be the best hobby for you for fulfilling the new, more free schedule.

## Bees provide medicine

Bees are making propolis, which is an amazing medicine. They use the propolis for gluing together everything in their hive. Besides the benefit that bees have from the propolis, the propolis provides a lot of benefits for people too. It helps heal burns, prevent cavities, fight cancer and many more benefits.

## The beeswax

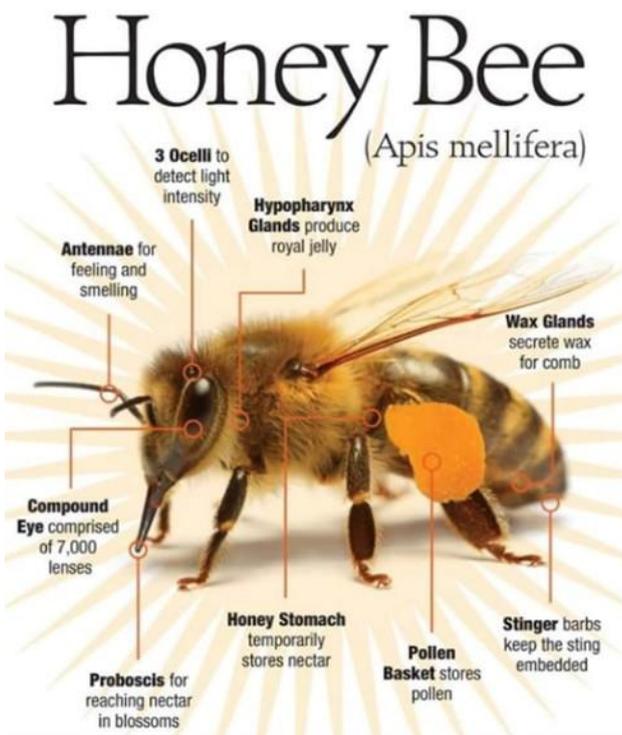
Not only honey and propolis are the amazing product of bees' work. Another very useful product is beeswax. Beeswax helps with osteoarthritis, reduces cholesterol, has an anti-inflammatory effect, it's an amazing skin treatment, helps with skin infection, etc. Also, from beeswax, you can make candles, lipsticks, soap and use it regularly in your everyday life.

## With beekeeping, you are helping to save the bees

Over recent years, the number of bees is in a decline because of the Colony Collapse Disorder. Basically, this is a situation where the worker bees are abandoning their hive. When worker bees leave, they are leaving behind the queen bee, young bees, and nurse bees. This is making the hive vulnerable to parasites that attack it. On the other hand, the worker bees that have left cannot survive without their queen. Thus making the Colony Collapse disorder a serious threat for bees.

## You will be able to wear a cool suit

When beekeeping, you should always wear a suit. You never know when the bees might be agitated. So, for safety, the suit is always the best option. Plus, these suits are quite comfortable, and you can look as if you work in NASA, or like an astronaut.



**Worker Honey Bees have different jobs according to their age**

- 1-2 days old:** have the job to clean the cells, and they start with the one they were born in. They also keep the brood warm
- 3-5 days old:** their job is to feed older larvae
- 6-11 days old:** they have the responsibility to feed the youngest larvae
- 12-17 days old:** they are producing wax, carrying food, building combs and have undertaker duties
- 18-21 days old:** they are protecting the hive entrance and have guard duty
- From 22 days to the end of their life (at around 40-45 days):** they fly from the hive and collect pollen, nectar, water etc.

[www.beekeepingbasic.com](http://www.beekeepingbasic.com)

# Field-day photos.



# Australian Native Bee Stamps (Release May 14)



# Royal Easter Show Update

Multiple club volunteers assisted the NSW Apiarist Association's **Honeyland** exhibit at Woolworths Fresh Food Dome!



Over the duration of the show a number of club members from MacArthur Beekeepers made themselves available to assist with honey sales and general beekeeping information at the 2019 Royal Easter Show.

Feedback from participants was very positive. The event provided opportunity to share information with the general public whilst also working alongside some professional beekeepers. Maybe you could consider volunteering next

year?

## Meetings & Events

**Copy Deadline for our next newsletter:**  
Friday, 10th May.

To: [editor@macbeekeepers.asn.au](mailto:editor@macbeekeepers.asn.au)

### May 2019

- 5th 10am - Field Day (10 am)
- 10th-Find newsletter on website
- 15th- 7:30pm Club Meeting

### June 2019

- 2nd 10am - Field Day
- 7th - 9th – 2019 ABA Conference
- 14th - Find newsletter on website
- 19th - 7:30pm Club Meeting

### July 2019

- 7th 10am – Field Day
- 12th - Find newsletter on website
- 17th - 7:30pm Club Meeting



## Facebook updates

(FB page maintained by Pino & Ed)

**Here is a sample of what you will find on our Facebook page.**

**For further details go to**

<https://www.facebook.com/macbeekeepers/>

### World Bee Day:

Celebrate World Bee Day at Visit Australian Parliament House, where it will be, naturally, a hive of activity! Get up close and personal with bees, hear experts talk about them and even taste their honey.

Date: Sunday 19 May

Time: 9.00am–12.00 noon

Cost: Free (no bookings required)

Location: The Great Hall

<https://www.facebook.com/events/805703573128458/>

### 3 Ways to know if honey is legit so you get the most health benefits:

Honey adds a touch of sweetness to really anything you want. This silky and slightly sticky delight is also antibacterial, anti-inflammatory and is antioxidant which may seem like a lot of anti, but we're far from anti honey.

<https://www.mindbodygreen.com/articles/how-to-know-if-your-honey-is-legit?>

## CLASSIFIEDS and SPONSORSHIP

### Club Honey

Now available in  
500gm  
1 kg Tubs Contact  
Jessie on  
0409845625

### Club Shirts

Contact Jessie or  
Michael at the next  
meeting  
With Name \$65  
Without Name \$60

### Club Member Advertising:

Short line with phone nos. = Free  
Size up to 60mm by 40mm (one per member)=  
Free

(Non member =\$10/per month)

Renew ad each month. Provide artwork  
editor@[macbeekeepers.asn.au](mailto:macbeekeepers.asn.au)

### FOR SALE

4 Nuplas brand plastic ten-  
frame Langstroth hives,  
consisting of 2 boxes per hive  
with fully drawn combs on  
plastic foundation. All hives  
with ventilated base boards  
and beetle traps underneath.  
\$250 per hive, bees included.  
Telephone Robert, 0416 163  
119 after 6 p.m. or  
email [rbtola@gmail.com](mailto:rbtola@gmail.com).

### Club equipment for member use.

The following equipment is available for use  
by members:

- 2 frame manual extractor.
- Electric uncapping knife
- Cappings draining tray set.

Please contact Michael or Jessie via email  
[treasurer@macbeekeepers.asn.au](mailto:treasurer@macbeekeepers.asn.au) or  
[secretary@macbeekeepers.asn.au](mailto:secretary@macbeekeepers.asn.au)

Or Michael on 0429368353 or Jessie on  
0409845625.

All equipment must be returned in a clean  
condition ready for the next user.

MAY 2019

# Thank you to our sponsors!



2 Queen St, Campbelltown, NSW 2560

Ph: 02 46267022

Trading Hours: 8.30am - 5.00pm



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