



For information on the ABA including joining (re-joining) go to: [www.beekeepers.asn.au](http://www.beekeepers.asn.au)

To go to the Parramatta Branch Page, click on <https://goo.gl/i4q87x>

Join us on Facebook



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/parramattabeekeepers/>

**239** members as at 24 November 2019

## A warm welcome to new members!

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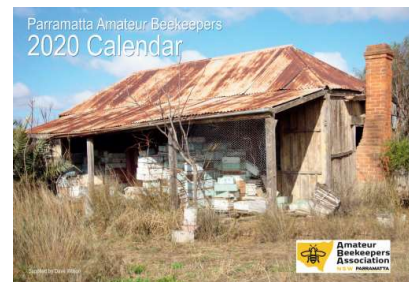
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### **PAB 2020 Inaugural Calendar – LAST CHANCE - \$15.00**

Our inaugural calendar has been a success. Your last chance to grab one will be at the Christmas party on Wednesday, 11 December 2019. The calendar includes important dates, including dates for: public holidays, school holidays, daylight savings start and end and moon phases.

Calendars will make great Christmas gifts for family, friends and teachers.

Don't be disappointed.



President:	Geoff Peoples	e: <a href="mailto:parramatta.president@beekeepers.asn.au">parramatta.president@beekeepers.asn.au</a>
Secretary:	Robyn Alderton	e: <a href="mailto:parramatta.secretary@beekeepers.asn.au">parramatta.secretary@beekeepers.asn.au</a>
Treasurer:	Andrew Bardsley	e: <a href="mailto:parramatta.treasurer@beekeepers.asn.au">parramatta.treasurer@beekeepers.asn.au</a>

**Newsletter Deadline to submit material – 20<sup>th</sup> of each month**

## December Event – Christmas BBQ – 11 December 2019

For our Christmas celebration this year we've gone back to our tradition of past years.

For the new-bees, we don't have a December Meeting, however, we get together and celebrate with a Christmas BBQ and toast good health and a prosperous honey flow for all!

This event is sponsored by the PAB therefore there is no charge however you must bring along a contribution (see below)

It's not a 'bee-free' zone, it is a great opportunity to talk to others about your bees.

A warm welcome is extended to Members and their partners and children to join us for our annual social event.

The Club will provide meat to BBQ, onions, bread/bread rolls, bottled water and soft drinks.

Members are asked to bring either:

- a starter (dips, cheese, chips and crackers)
- a salad (to accompany the BBQ) or
- a dessert

'What quantity should you cater for' I hear you ask? **Bring along enough food for your group plus 2 as a minimum.**

It's a really fun night with lots of laughs and giggles. We will have Lucky Door Prizes, however you have to be wearing '**your touch of Christmas**' and be there, at the time of the draw, to claim your prize. We will also be drawing the "calendar photograph voters" lucky door prize.

**To book your spot you can either click on the link below:**

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/parramatta-amateur-beekeepers-christmas-bbq-tickets-83531467869>

**Or you can click on the link in your separate email invitation.**

**Regardless, you will be asked to indicate:**

- 1. Your acceptance and tell us how many will be in your group and**
- 2. Members are requested to come to the BBQ with either:**
  - **a starter (dips, cheese, chips and crackers)**
  - **a salad (to accompany the BBQ) or**
  - **a dessert**

**The Eventbrite invitation will ask you to indicate what it is you plan to bring.**

Don't forget to purchase your raffle tickets on the night. Prizes on offer are:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Uncapping box and stand with honey loosener – kindly donated by our sponsor – Lyson Beekeeping Supplies
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: 8 frame box and frames – kindly donated by our sponsor Hornsby Beekeeping Supplies
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: Bee suit – kindly donated by our sponsor Beekeeping Gear
- 4<sup>th</sup> Prize: Uncapping comb – donated by PAB

*Raffle will be drawn at around 8.30 pm at the BBQ.*

**Express yourself and dress up in your Christmas gear!**



## Vale PAB member Gordon Lindsey – 26.9.31 – 8.11.19

By: Robyn Alderton, Secretary

It is with sadness that I inform you of the passing of our dear member, Gordon Lindsey.

Gordon was a quiet contributor to the club. He was a strong supporter and regularly attended our celebrations.

Gordon is shown at right (dressed up in the santa suit) at our 2018 Christmas party.

Gordon's funeral was held on Monday, 18 November 2019.



The following is an extract from a poem written for Gordon and describes him very well.

*So, when you see a bee dancing around a flower, or a sunrise in its golden hour, when you overflow the kitchen sink, when you put words on paper with actual ink – He is there!*

*When someone hogs the remote control, or strides the neighbourhood like they're on patrol, when catching fish on Fraser Island, or strolling through the Victorian Highland – He is there!*

Gordon even contributed to our inaugural 2020 Calendar. His sunflower photo features in February. On behalf of the PAB, we used his sunflower photo to produce a sympathy card (pictured at right) which was presented to the family along with a calendar.



## Secretary's Report

By Robyn Alderton, Secretary

The last Executive Meeting was held on 6 November 2019. For your information, meeting outcomes are outlined below.

Please note the following important information.

- Raffle prizes determined. Tickets to be sold at the November meeting, the December BBQ and drawn on the evening of the BBQ.
- Will be organising 'train the Judges' training for mid 2020.
- The 2020 AGM will be held on 9 April 2020
- In 2020 we will be running box and frame making workshops where members will be invited to learn how to make the gear. Gear made will be sold in the shop
- **Members are reminded that the member discount for their beekeeping purchases from Hornsby Beekeeping Supplies and Beekeeping Gear is 5% only. Members must produce their membership card as proof of membership.**
- 2020 (18 months) membership fees discussed and agreed (see Newsletter article for further information).



- The ABA have agreed that renewing members will be provided with their membership card and a log-book. Both items will be posted to member addresses on record.
- **Change to payment of swarms. Swarm recipients will following receipt of their swarm will be sent an invoice for payment of the swarm.**

**Reminder:** *Full copy of Minutes of Executive Minutes are available upon receipt of a written request.*

## 2020 Fees

*By: Dave Wilson, Vice President*

Your Parramatta Amateur Beekeeping club is affiliated with the Amateur Beekeeping Association of NSW (ABA). The ABA provides both club insurance as well as the optional personal beekeepers' insurance. It also supports the membership system which allows members to pay their fees, and update their own records.

The ABA now has nearly 3000 members and with good management has been able to reduce its fees. While it may, in the future, provide grants to clubs these cannot be relied on. The ABA is encouraging clubs to be more financially independent. For this reason your club executive has decided to charge a nominal club fee of \$10.

Next year the ABA has offered a very generous early bird discount for those who pay before the new year. With this discount and the new club fee the total membership fee is cheaper than last year and is valid over an 18 month period, ie, until 30 June 2021.

Membership of both the Parramatta club and the ABA combined with personal beekeeping insurance over a period of 18 months for only \$45 is good value for money by any measure.

In mid-December you will receive an email from the ABA inviting you join the Parramatta Club, the ABA and to take up personal beekeeping insurance (optional).

For your information the Table below summarises past, current and 2020 fees:

<b>2016 – 12 months</b>	<b>ABA Fee</b>	<b>(Optional) Insurance</b>	<b>Club Fee</b>	<b>Total</b>
Paid in December 2016 (early bird)	\$45	\$45	\$0	\$90
Paid in January 2016 (non-early bird)	\$50	\$50	\$0	\$100
<b>2019 – 12 months</b>	<b>ABA Fee</b>	<b>(Optional) Insurance</b>	<b>Club Fee</b>	<b>Total</b>
Paid in December 2018 (early bird)	\$30	\$20	\$0	\$50
Paid in January 2019 (non-early bird)	\$40	\$20	\$0	\$60
<b>January 2020 – June 2021 – 18 months</b>	<b>ABA Fee</b>	<b>(Optional) Insurance</b>	<b>Club Fee</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Paid in December 2019 (early bird)</b>	<b>\$15</b>	<b>\$20</b>	<b>\$10</b>	<b>\$45</b>
<b>Paid in January 2020 (non-early bird)</b>	<b>\$30</b>	<b>\$20</b>	<b>\$10</b>	<b>\$60</b>

## **Flower Power – 16 and 17 November - Summary**

*By: Sandy Harrison, Events Officer*

Another Successful Partnering Event with Partner Flower Power, Glenhaven

The weekend chosen was the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> November 2019 and the weather was kind to us and the box of bees was our main event. Thanks to the 26 club members who joined the roster and spoke about everything bee for the weekend. Thanks to Peter Clarke for the bees and Dave Wilson for the display box the public were fascinated to see and hear the bees and smell the honey coming from the box. Judging of honey products was small in numbers but high in quality. Thanks to Arthur Garske our Judge and Peter Clarke his able assistant. Peta Appleroth was over all show champion and we congratulate her.



*At left: The young and the not so young - talking bees of course.*



*At right: Pete with our honey display*



*At left: Our bees in their Temporary home for the 2 days*

Our bees were very popular with all and made it safely home to Castle Hill.

The public was interested in Bees and Beekeeping and very generous in purchasing our products for sale. Lots of interest in keeping bees and we hope to see this add to our club numbers. We have thanked Flower Power for hosting us and we hope to be back there in March 2020.

***On behalf of PAB members – thank you very much to Sandy and her team of Flower Power helpers!***

## Working in the apiary

By: Robyn Alderton, Secretary

Our very own Dave Wilson and Arthur Garske in the apiary removing frames of honey ready for the extraction team.



So, what was the result of that extraction?

- 56 full depth frames extracted
- 77 kgs of honey (mostly sold at Parramatta Foundation Day and Flower Power)
- 1.38 kg of wax recovered after washing then melted in boiling water and skimmed
- 1.29 kg of wax after final melt and single filter

This yielded

- 8 small cup shaped moulds total 1.03 kg, ie, each wax cup about 125 gms (\$2.50)
- 18 small decorative bee/comb type moulds - total 0.26 kg, ie, each mould about 15 gms (\$0.29)

About \$0.45 per frame. Pricing based on \$20/kg. Wax available for sale at Flower Power and the shop.

*Thank you* to our volunteers, we would be lost without them.

## Calling all willing and able club swarm collectors

By Bill Dick, Colony Distribution Officer

Calling all members! Are you willing to spare some time and collect swarms on behalf of and for the club and its members?

If so, please contact your friendly Colony Distribution Officer, Bill Dick, on email: [parramatta.swarms@beekeepers.asn.au](mailto:parramatta.swarms@beekeepers.asn.au) and advise your contact details and areas you are willing to collect swarms from so that Bill can contact you when he needs you.



## Members helping each other

*By member: Klaus Neuscheler*

Information in a recent newsletter prompted me to share my story about a swarm we caught in Marrickville. Sandy, Bill and Howie arrived on a Sunday to transfer the swarm from one of our boxes into theirs.

A lot of hooded white monsters around the little bees. It was a shame to see that swarm go but as Dave Wilson recently said, 2 hives is enough for a backyard and we are sure Sandy's neighbour and the bees will enjoy their new home.



## Mentoring now available prior to monthly club events

*By: Robyn Alderton*

The mentoring program began in October and will continue at this stage. Mentors will be available in the Auditorium from 7.00 pm on the night of monthly club events (excluding July and December).

Come along and ask a Mentor your specific beekeeping questions.

- Mentees are encouraged to bring photos/videos of the parts of their hive that they are concerned about or have questions about.
- New beekeepers encouraged to seek a mentor/buddy within the club themselves.
- New beekeepers encouraged to view You-Tube clips and purchase a copy of the DPI Beekeeping reference book.
- If you're interested in becoming a mentor, please contact either Geoff or Robyn. Please note, you will be required to be available in the Auditorium at 7.00 pm on Club event evenings.

## **ABA Field day – Sunday, 10 November 2019 - Summary**

By: *Robyn Alderton*

The ABA Field Day held on Sunday, 10 November hosted by the Illawarra Branch Beekeepers was a great day of presentations, demonstrations, information sharing, chatting, great morning tea and sausage sizzle lunch and an all round fun day.

The Program was well put together as there was something for everyone.

It was great to see so many PAB members go along

The photo at right was taken in the afternoon at one of the many demonstrations.



## **Club shop opening – 11 December 2019**

By *Lod Porretta*

On Wednesday, 11 December, the Club Shop will be open prior to the start of the Christmas BBQ. The shop will only be open between 5.30 pm and 6.00 pm.

It would be extremely helpful if members emailed their orders through to the store on the email below. The shop offices will then have your order ready and waiting for you to pay and pick it up.

Shop email: Lod Porretta [parramatta.stores@beekeepers.asn.au](mailto:parramatta.stores@beekeepers.asn.au)

The following items are now available to purchase in the Club Shop

- Beetle Traps
- Cleats
- Foundation
- Gloves
- Honey Gate
- Risers
- Uncapping Boxes
- Bottom Boards
- Chemicals
- Frames
- Hive Closers
- Jackets/Suits
- Smokers
- Boxes
- Eyelets
- Frame Wire
- Hive Locks
- Lids
- Spur Wheels
- Bee Brush
- Electric Embedder
- Glass Jars
- Hive Tools - J
- Plastic Buckets
- Strainers & Cloths



## Online club diary of events

By: Robyn Alderton

Looking for What's on? Click on the following link and you'll be taken to the club calendar.

PAB Calendar: <https://goo.gl/i4q87x>

## Handy contact details

Position	Position Holder	Contact Details
President	Geoff Peoples	<a href="mailto:parramatta.president@beekeepers.asn.au">parramatta.president@beekeepers.asn.au</a>
Vice President and Bio Security Officer	Dave Wilson	<a href="mailto:parramatta.vp@beekeepers.asn.au">parramatta.vp@beekeepers.asn.au</a>
Secretary	Robyn Alderton	<a href="mailto:parramatta.secretary@beekeepers.asn.au">parramatta.secretary@beekeepers.asn.au</a>
Treasurer	Andrew Bardsley	<a href="mailto:parramatta.treasurer@beekeepers.asn.au">parramatta.treasurer@beekeepers.asn.au</a>
Stores Officer	Lod Porretta	<a href="mailto:parramatta.stores@beekeepers.asn.au">parramatta.stores@beekeepers.asn.au</a>
Apiary Officers	Dave Wilson and Arthur Garske	<a href="mailto:parramatta.vp@beekeepers.asn.au">parramatta.vp@beekeepers.asn.au</a> <a href="mailto:awgarske@gmail.com">awgarske@gmail.com</a>
Event Organiser	Sandy Harrison	<a href="mailto:parramatta.events@beekeepers.asn.au">parramatta.events@beekeepers.asn.au</a>
Member Officer	Steve Alderton	<a href="mailto:parramatta.membership@beekeepers.asn.au">parramatta.membership@beekeepers.asn.au</a>
Colony Distribution Officer	Bill Dick	<a href="mailto:parramatta.swarms@beekeepers.asn.au">parramatta.swarms@beekeepers.asn.au</a>
Education Officer	Arthur Garske	<a href="mailto:awgarske@gmail.com">awgarske@gmail.com</a>
Extractor Custodian Officer - east	Sandy Harrison	<a href="mailto:parramatta.events@beekeepers.asn.au">parramatta.events@beekeepers.asn.au</a>
Extractor Custodian Officer- west	Andrew Bardsley	<a href="mailto:parramatta.treasurer@beekeepers.asn.au">parramatta.treasurer@beekeepers.asn.au</a>

## Calendar 2019

Date	Time/Event	Feature/Comment
11 December	6.00 pm for 6.30 pm Parramatta Club Event	Feature: Christmas BBQ at JRHS (refer to the details on this Newsletter and your Eventbrite email)

**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

## Calendar 2020

Date	Time/Event	Feature/Comment
12 / 2 / 2020	7.30 pm PAB Monthly Club Event	Speaker 1: Paul Campbell, Hive Monitoring Speaker 2: Zara, Lyson Beekeeping Supplies
11 / 3 / 2020	7.30 pm PAB Monthly Club Event	Speaker TBA
?? / 3 / 2020	Flower Power Community Event	Details TBC
8 / 4 / 2020	7.30 pm PAB AGM and PAB Monthly Club Event	Speaker TBA
13 / 5 / 2020	7.30 pm PAB Monthly Club Event	Speaker TBA
16 & 17 / 5 / 2020	<i>St Ives Show</i>	<i>Details to follow</i>
10 / 6 / 2020	7.30 pm PAB Monthly Club Event	Speaker TBA
15 / 7 / 2020	Christmas in July Family Event	Details TBD
12 / 8 / 202	7.30 pm PAB Monthly Club Event	Speaker TBA
9 / 9 / 2020	7.30 pm PAB Monthly Club Event	Speaker TBA
14 / 10 / 2020	7.30 pm PAB Monthly Club Event	Speaker TBA
11 / 11 / 2020	7.30 pm PAB Monthly Club Event	Speaker TBA
9 / 12 / 2020	Christmas Family Event	Details TBD

**Please note:** *Apiary Field Days - will be organised individually and communicated through the Newsletter and at monthly club events however bookings must be made through Eventbrite.*

**Note:** Details correct at the time of dispatch however subject to change

Please email your Newsletter enquiries to: [parramatta.secretary@beekeepers.asn.au](mailto:parramatta.secretary@beekeepers.asn.au)

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