



**Amateur
Beekeepers
Association**
NSW PARRAMATTA

February 2020

Newsletter of the Parramatta Amateur Beekeepers

For information on the ABA including joining (re-joining) go to: 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/>

A warm welcome to new members – we are 230 strong!

In this Issue

Page

<i>PAB 2020 Inaugural Calendar – LAST CHANCE - \$15.00</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>December Event – Christmas BBQ – 11 December 2019 - Summary</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>February club event feature – What you need to know about small hive beetle (SHB) with Dave Wilson</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Honey jar labelling</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Honey extraction at James Ruse – January 2020</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>2020 Parramatta Amateur Beekeepers (PABs) Annual General Meeting (AGM)</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Secretary's Report</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Mentoring session prior to monthly club events</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Club shop opening – 12 February 2020</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Handy contact details</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>What's on in 2020</i>	<i>9</i>

PAB 2020 Inaugural Calendar – LAST CHANCE - \$15.00

By Robyn Alderton

Our inaugural calendar has been a success. There are ten copies left. Contact me or see me at the February meeting for your copy. A bargain at \$15.00.

Never miss the date of our monthly club events.

All you have to do is refer to your trusty PAB calendar!



President:	Geoff Peoples	e: parramatta.president@beekeepers.asn.au
Secretary:	Robyn Alderton	e: parramatta.secretary@beekeepers.asn.au
Treasurer:	Andrew Bardsley	e: parramatta.treasurer@beekeepers.asn.au

Newsletter deadline to submit material – 20th of each month

December Event – Christmas BBQ – 11 December 2019 - Summary

By: Robyn Alderton

As has been the case in previous years, a whole lot of fun was had at our Christmas Family Social where we celebrated with a family BBQ.

The Club provided meat for the BBQ, onions, bread/bread rolls, bottled water and soft drinks.

Members brought along their 'secret' goodies. We enjoyed: salads, spring rolls, mead, wine, seafood, cheeses and amazing desserts.

... and the executive cooked up a storm!

There were lucky door prizes, best dressed prizes and raffles to be won.

The lucky winners of the raffle were:

1st Prize – won by Zarco Rnjak, prize donated by Lyson Beekeeping Supplies (Mudgee)

link: <https://www.lysonau.com.au/>

2nd Prize – won by Steve Alderton, prize donated by Hornsby Beekeeping Supplies

link: <https://hornsby-beekeeping.com>

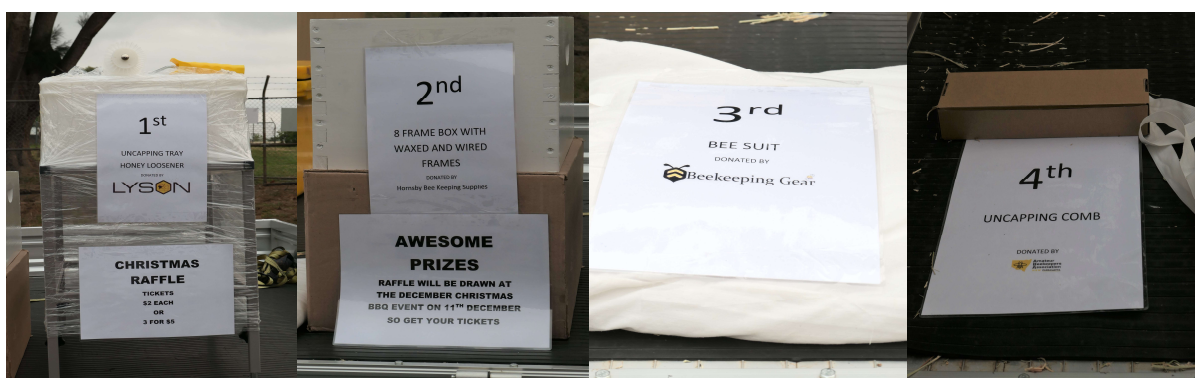
3rd Prize – won by Joseph Kirkman, prize donated by Beekeeping Supplies (Granville)

link: <https://www.beekeepinggear.com.au>

4th Prize – won by Gary Christoffel, prize donated by your club, Parramatta Amateur Beekeepers

Thank you very much to our Sponsors listed above for kindly donating these fabulous prizes.

Thank you to the **Executive** for supporting this event and thank you to **Sandy** and her **team** for all their hard work in coordinating such a great event. Thank you to the **BBQ-ers** and thank you to all **members** who brought food and goodies to the festive table. You are all **CHAMPIONS!**



Thank you very much to our SPONSORS!

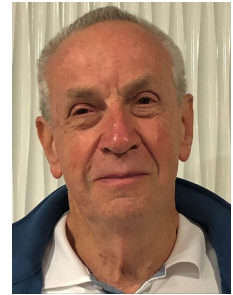
Happy snaps from the event will be shown on screen prior to the February monthly club event!

February club event feature – What you need to know about small hive beetle (SHB) with Dave Wilson

By: Robyn Alderton (Secretary)

Small hive beetle is a beekeeping pest. It is endemic to sub-Saharan Africa, but has spread to many other locations, including North America, Australia, and the Philippines.

The small hive beetle can be a destructive pest of honey bee colonies, causing damage to comb, stored honey, and pollen.



If a beetle infestation is sufficiently heavy, they may cause bees to abandon their hive.

The beetles can also be a pest of stored combs, and honey (in the comb) awaiting extraction. Beetle larvae may tunnel through combs of honey, feeding and defecating, causing discoloration and fermentation of the honey.

This time of the year is when small hive beetle can be at their most destructive. Come to the February Club Event and learn from our very own Dave Wilson how to manage small hive beetle in your hives.

Honey jar labelling

By: Robyn Alderton

Unsure about your responsibilities for labelling your honey for sale? Refer to the ABA August/September 2019 Newsletter for the Rules and Regulations.

Click on the link:

<https://www.beekeepers.asn.au/news/2019/7/28/the-amateur-beekeeper-augsept-2019>

Honey extraction at James Ruse – January 2020

By: Dave Wilson

Arthur Garske and Dave Wilson removed 72 frames from the club hives and carried them via trailer to the honey extracting room.

Later in the week Peter Clarke, Lod Porretta, Peta Appleroth and Guy Challis extracted some 120 kg of honey. They filtered the honey and placed it into 1 kg buckets.

Dave Wilson and Arthur Garske put the stickies back on the hives.



This is great work by your executive. A special thanks to Peta and Guy for helping on the day.

2020 Parramatta Amateur Beekeepers (PABs) Annual General Meeting (AGM)

By: Robyn Alderton

The 2020 AGM of the Parramatta Amateur Beekeepers will be held on Wednesday, 8 April 2020.

If you don't feel confident in taking on a committee role, please make yourself available to help out in any of the many other 'helper' roles on offer throughout the year. The club is only as strong as the committee and its helpers.

We do encourage you to take an active role within our club.

Look at in the March Newsletter for details about the AGM. The Newsletter will also include a nomination form.

Secretary's Report

By Robyn Alderton, Secretary

The last Executive Meeting was held on 29 January 2020. For your information, meeting outcomes are outlined below.

- As a result of the survey from the last training course and the fact that more and more members prefer to purchase assembled boxes, lids, bottom boards and frames. Suggested we discuss removing these activities from the Beginning in Bees training course and hold 'days' where you learn to make them however you make them for the club.
- Items to be replaced in the Extraction Room identified and will be purchased.
- Transport of hives and honey frames to/from apiary site at JRAHS – cost effective options being investigated.
- Swarm recipients to be invoiced for payment when they receive a swarm via the club.
- PAB Lifetime Member - inaugural Lifetime member is Arthur Garske. This motion to be ratified at the 2020 AGM.
- PAB Exec dates:
 - Wednesday, 29 January
 - Wednesday, 19 February
 - Wednesday, 18 March
 - Wednesday, 15 April
 - Wednesday, 20 May
 - Wednesday, 17 June 2020
 - Wednesday, 22 July 2020
 - Wednesday, 19 August 2020
 - Wednesday, 16 September 2020
 - Wednesday, 21 October 2020
 - Wednesday, 18 November 2020



- Wednesday, 16 December 2020
- 2020 planning:
 - Flower Power event – planned for 28/29 March 2020 – Sandy planning – volunteers required. Arthur will judge the honey competition at the event.
 - 2021 Calendar - agreed we would organise a member 2021 Calendar.
 - Christmas in July Event – agreed we would organise a July Member Event.
 - Parramatta Foundation Day – agreed we would participate.
 - JRHS Year 7 Bee Event – strongly agreed this was important and we would organise an event similar to December 2019 event.
 - St Ives Show – agreed with member volunteers we would participate. Sandy to organise.
 - 2020 Christmas BBQ – agreed a 2020 event would be organised.
 - Agreed we would run a 2020 mead making course for members
 - Agreed we would run a 2020 honey judging course for members
 - Agreed we would run 2020 Beginning in Bees Training Course, and will determine: trainers for knowledge sessions, AG plus one will run apiary training, standard training materials, student resources and course fee
- Geoff has agreed to be our warre hive custodian, ie, he will monitor, manage and report the progress of the warre hive in the apiary.
- All goods on offer for sale to PAB members by other PAB members (goods and services that are not offered by the PAB/PAB shop) must be sold through the PAB shop with the shop receiving 10% of the sale, eg, of late bottom boards, nucs, training DVDs have been sold to members.
- ABA December/January Newsletter: Measuring AFB levels in honey - ABA Dec/Jan Newsletter. DW organising the honey samples, ie, from the apiary, Andrew's apiary and Dave's own apiary. Samples will continue to be collected over time.
- ABA AGM is scheduled for Sunday, 5 April 2020 in Bathurst.
- PAB will participate in the Col Pulling Comp – reminder PAB were co-winners last year.
 - Round 1: Liquid Honey - AB
 - Round 2: Club Report - RA
 - Round 3: Club Promotion Pamphlet or Flier - RA
 - Round 4: Quiz - Dave and Arthur are compiling quiz question on behalf of PAB
 - Dave and Arthur will be involved in the judging and therefore cannot take on the role as Club Coordinator
- Andrew volunteered to be the executive member who will coordinate competition items for the Col Pulling Competition.
- PAB team to complete the quiz (in Sydney). The Quiz link will be emailed to all participants at the same time. The Quiz team will have a specific period of time (say 30 minutes) to complete the quiz.
- PAB AGM to be held 8 April 2020 – advice and Nomination Form to be provided to Members through the March and April Newsletters.
- Member request to assist beekeepers who have lost their hives in the bushfires. The member on behalf of Rotary are looking at funding 2,000 hives. We have indicated that we can seek member assistance to assemble hardware if materials are provided.
- Apiary:

- 9 boxes of honey taken off (DW, AG and Guy Chalis)
- Extraction - PC, LP and Peta Appleroth - 120 x 1kg buckets Stickies - Dave and Arthur
- Looking for more to help in with the early March extraction.
- Fair Trading NSW Training Calendar for 2020 (up to August) is now available on their website:
 - Running an Association (29 Jan 2-3 pm - Wednesday)/
18 Jun 10:30-11:30 am - Thursday)
 - Role of the Committee and Public Officer
(19 Mar 2-3 pm – Thursday / 22 Jul 1-2 pm -
Wednesday)
 - Raffles (20 Aug 2-3 pm - Thursday)
- Invitation from Blacktown Bunnings regarding speaking at their Garden Club Workshop on 'how gardeners can help the bee population in their garden, information on general the bee populations, facts about bees, what the ABA is all about and how to join.
- Commencing the 2020 swarm season newly trained PAB members will not be required to pay for their first swarm. Still required to pay for/replace boxes, frames and wax. Second and subsequent swarms will be charged at the normal charge.
- Contact from Gordon Lindsay's family. In honour of Gordon, the family will continue keeping his bees. They will join the Hawkesbury club.
- Transporting items to events/shows. Options have been discussed – investigating the rental and / or purchase and storage of a galvanised trailer with high sides.
- Rather than providing the club with a percentage of credit per member transaction at Beekeeping Supplies (Granville), Azim has very kindly indicated that he would prefer to provide the club with \$200 credit for 2020. We will use this credit to purchase items for raffle at monthly club events.
- Commencing the February meeting, raffles will be: PAB Exec 29.1.20 – Agreed to raffle at February meeting.
 - February – Wax wraps
 - March uncapper and hive tool
 - Need volunteer(s) to run the raffles
 - Refer to the back of the Newsletter for items to be raffled each month
- Agreed to source a Nuplas full depth super for the Nuplas hive in the apiary
- Agreed we would purchase 15 nucs for club use
- Agreed that Mentors should be easily identified – and will wear a hi viz vest at monthly club events
- Agreed the 3 big ticket items for 2020 are:
 - Transporting frames of honey from the apiary to the extraction room
 - Transporting items to public events/shows
 - JRHS Yr 7 bee experience

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

Mentoring session prior to monthly club events

By: Robyn Alderton

The mentoring program which began in October 2019 will continue for 2020.

Mentors will be available in the Auditorium from 7.00 pm on the night of monthly club events (excluding July and December).

Mentor(s) can now be easily identified as they will be the member(s) wearing an orange coloured hi viz vest.



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.

Club shop opening – 12 February 2020

By Lod Porretta

The club shop re-opens on Wednesday, 12 February prior to the monthly club event.

Members are encouraged to support their club shop and purchase their beekeeping goods from the club shop whenever possible.

Shop email: Lod Porretta parramatta.stores@beekeepers.asn.au

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

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

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	parramatta.president@beekeepers.asn.au
Vice President and Bio Security Officer	Dave Wilson	parramatta.vp@beekeepers.asn.au
Secretary	Robyn Alderton	parramatta.secretary@beekeepers.asn.au
Treasurer	Andrew Bardsley	parramatta.treasurer@beekeepers.asn.au
Stores Officer	Lod Porretta	parramatta.stores@beekeepers.asn.au
Apiary Officers	Dave Wilson and Arthur Garske	parramatta.vp@beekeepers.asn.au awgarske@gmail.com
Event Organiser	Sandy Harrison	parramatta.events@beekeepers.asn.au
Member Officer	Steve Alderton	parramatta.membership@beekeepers.asn.au
Colony Distribution Officer	Bill Dick	parramatta.swarms@beekeepers.asn.au
Education Officer	Arthur Garske	awgarske@gmail.com
Extractor Custodian Officer - east	Sandy Harrison	parramatta.events@beekeepers.asn.au
Extractor Custodian Officer- west	Andrew Bardsley	parramatta.treasurer@beekeepers.asn.au

What's on in 2020

Date	Time/Event	Feature/Comment
12 / 2 / 2020	7.30 pm PAB Monthly Club Event	Dave Wilson on Small Hive Beetle – because it's that time of year! Raffle: February – wax wraps
11 / 3 / 2020	7.30 pm PAB Monthly Club Event	Paul Campbell, Hive Monitoring Raffle: March uncapper and hive tool
?? / 3 / 2020	Flower Power Community Event	Details TBC
8 / 4 / 2020	7.30 pm PAB AGM and PAB Monthly Club Event	PAB Annual General Meeting Speaker TBA Raffle: TBC
13 / 5 / 2020	7.30 pm PAB Monthly Club Event	Speaker: Zara, Lyson Beekeeping Supplies Raffle: TBC
16 & 17 / 5 / 2020	St Ives Show	Details to follow
10 / 6 / 2020	7.30 pm PAB Monthly Club Event	Speaker TBA Raffle: TBA
15 / 7 / 2020	Christmas in July Family Event	Details TBD Raffle: 1 st prize Nuplas brood box, bottom board and lid 2 nd prize: Bee suit
12 / 8 / 202	7.30 pm PAB Monthly Club Event	Speaker TBA Raffle: TBA
9 / 9 / 2020	7.30 pm PAB Monthly Club Event	Speaker TBA Raffle: TBA
14 / 10 / 2020	7.30 pm PAB Monthly Club Event	Speaker TBA Raffle: TBA
11 / 11 / 2020	7.30 pm PAB Monthly Club Event	Speaker TBA Raffle: TBA
9 / 12 / 2020	Christmas Family Event	Details TBD RAFFLES: TBA

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

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