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***A warm welcome to ALL new members!***

## ***Update on Ross' Recovery***

Ross' wife, Kerry, tells us that Ross continues to respond to treatment.

We continue to wish Ross and Kerry well.

***In Ross' absence, and until further notice, for all shop enquiries please contact:  
Lod Poretta [porretta@live.com.au](mailto:porretta@live.com.au) or Gary Chrisoffel [gmchristoffel@gmail.com](mailto:gmchristoffel@gmail.com)***

President: Peter Clarke [peterandjanclarke1@bigpond.com](mailto:peterandjanclarke1@bigpond.com)  
Secretary: Robyn Alderton [parramatabeekeepers@hotmail.com](mailto:parramatabeekeepers@hotmail.com)  
Treasurer: Paul Campbell [paul.email2007@gmail.com](mailto:paul.email2007@gmail.com)

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

## Beekeeping Registration Requirements

**Reminder:** “Any person who keeps bees (one or more hives) in NSW must be registered as a beekeeper in accordance with the Apiaries Act 1985 and the Apiaries Regulation 2013. Follow the link to view the Apiaries Act and go to Part 3 Registration of beekeepers.

Source: <http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/about-us/legislation/list/apiaries> accessed 30 June 2017.



**Seniors: You are entitled to a discount on your honeybee registration**

**‘Bee’ warned – penalties can apply!**

## July Event – Christmas in July Dinner, Wednesday, 12 July 2017

**REMINDER:** There is no meeting in July. The girls (usually) slow down through winter and so (usually) can we. As has been the case for many years, we won't be holding a July Meeting however we will be holding a July Social.

Members and Partners are invited to meet for a light meal at 6.30 pm on Wednesday, 12 July 2017 at the Carlingford Bowling Club.

Table is booked under ‘Parramatta Beekeepers’. Hope to see you there!



## June Club Event – Honey – Could it be the Sweet Solution to the Superbug Crisis? - Summary

If you missed the June meeting then you missed a fabulous talk by Dr Shona Blair. Dr Blair is a microbiologist who has been investigating the medicinal properties of honey for over 15 years. Throughout her research career Shona has been involved in projects looking at many aspects of the medicinal properties of honey.



Following are some interesting links provided by Shona:

<https://ozhoneyproject.wordpress.com/>

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

Shona has recently started her own honey science centred Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/HoneyScience/>

Following is a snippet of that research (kindly provided by Shona) and a small portion of her presentation to us in June.

## **The Medicinal Properties of Honey**

*Prepared by Shona E Blair, PhD ©2017*

Honey has a long history of medicinal use:

- Humans have used honey for its healing properties for thousands of years
- Some of the earliest rock art, found in such diverse places as Africa, Australia, Bhutan, India, Spain and Sri Lanka depicts the collection of honey (a.k.a. honey hunting)
- Many diverse cultures have used honey as a medicine - the Chinese, Greeks, Romans, Arabs, Indians, Aztecs and Indigenous Australians are just some of the peoples who believed in the therapeutic benefits of honey
- In many cultures there was often an overlap between magic, religion and medicine - honey and/or bees were held as sacred in numerous religions for at least some stage throughout their history, if not constantly
  - Examples include prehistoric religions, ancient Egyptian cults, Aryan Veda (later Hinduism), ancient Israeli (later Judaism), Persian sects, Buddhism, Greek cults, Roman cults, Confucianism, Taoism, Shinto, Christianity, Islam and Sikhism
  - Many sacred texts, such as the Bible, Qur'an and Torah, specifically mention the medicinal use of honey
- The ancient Egyptians were arguably the first large-scale beekeepers (rather than honey hunters)
  - They produced thousands of tonnes of honey every year, moving their hives up and down the Nile on barges to follow the seasonal nectar flows
  - Their medical practices were sophisticated and often effective, and they included honey in over 500 of their 900 prescriptions
- The ailments treated with honey were as diverse as the cultures that used it
  - Insect bites, burns, diseases of the gastric and respiratory systems, sexually transmitted diseases, eye infections and war wounds were all treated with honey
  - One of the most common medicinal uses of honey was as a wound dressing

Despite a history of use in medicine that is almost as long as the history of the human race itself, honey was often dismissed as “alternative” and without basis as a therapeutic agent by modern medicos.

However, due to the increasing number of scientific studies showing the effectiveness of honey as a wound dressing, and with our increasing understanding how it works, honey is gaining recognition as an effective medicine in modern wound care.

## **Feature – Step by Step Guide to a Tried and Tested Method of Melting Wax in a Microwave**

By: Steve and Robyn Alderton

**Background:** We have collected our waste wax for several years not really knowing what to do with it. However recently we asked others how they go about melting their wax.

We have learnt about several methods. There are no right or wrong ways. We determined however that there are some ways that are more time and cost effective, than others, that met our needs.

Thank you to Bruce and Lynne White for sharing their wax processing secret! Thank you to Paul Drew for providing his method of melting wax which will be included in the August Newsletter.

Following is a step by step guide to how we went about melting our waste wax.

### **The tools we used:**

- 1000 watt Microwave (lower or higher wattage will require an adjustment to the heating duration). The microwave pictured was purchased on eBay for \$27.00)
- 2 x Microwave safe jugs (\$2.50 each from Aldi). *Note: The wax mixture when melted is hot, a jug with a handle is a safer option)*
- Waste wax  
*Note: the waste wax used here was largely waste cappings*
- 2 x Metal strainers (\$10.00 each)
- Chinese food containers (you could substitute for icecream containers) for the first wax mould
- Stockings for straining the hot wax (either use stocking socks or cut off stockings, you can even use Chux cloths)
- Silicon mould for second mould (\$12.00)



*Refer to photograph at right*

- Fill the jug with the waste wax. *Note: there is no need to wash the honey out of the waste wax*
- Insert the strainer into the stocking
- Place the jug with waste wax in the microwave for 10 minutes on high



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Refer to photograph at right

- When wax mixture has melted, slowly pour it into your first wax mould (through the strainer and stocking)

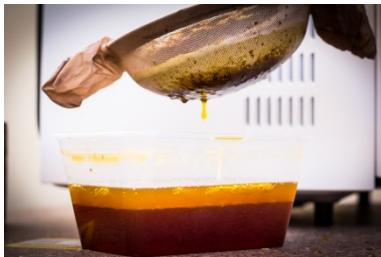
**Caution the wax mixture will be hot**



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Refer to photograph below left

- The wax mixture has separated, ie, the wax has floated to the top above the melted honey



*Note: We discarded the melted honey*



Refer to photograph at right

- Discard the Foreign matter caught in the strainer from the melted wax mixture

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Refer to photograph below left

- Clean wax solidifying at the top (as it cools)
- Slum gum in the middle
- Honey on the bottom



*Note: you can speed up the process by placing the container in the fridge*



Refer to photograph at right

- When completely cooled, pop the wax blocks out of the container and wash them thoroughly to remove the honey sticking to the underside

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Refer to photograph right

- Place the clean and dry wax blocks into a clean microwave proof jug
- Microwave on high for 10 minutes



Refer to photograph below left

- Slowly pour the hot wax into the second wax mould, again through a clean strainer and stocking



**Caution the wax mixture will be hot**

Refer to photograph at right



- There may be sediment in the bottom of the jug, to ensure your wax blocks remain clean, take care not to pour the sediment into the mould

Refer to photograph below left

- When the wax has cooled it will pop out of the silicone moulds easily.



Refer to photograph at right



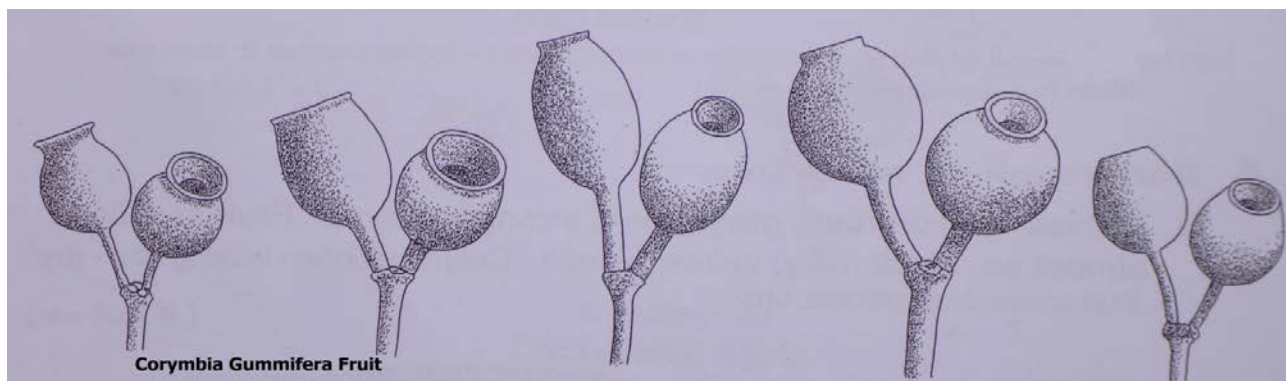
- Your growing clean wax stack!

### **Note:**

- If you choose to melt your wax this way, for competition, you may have to use a larger capacity jug to melt enough wax to form a block the size outlined in competition criteria
- Even though we didn't worry about it, some suggest that you aim to reclaim the honey
- The major disadvantage of the method described above is that honey is overheated, darkened and not suitable for retail sale. Microwaves heat water molecules and as there is more water in honey than the wax the honey is heated first. The honey is momentarily heated to much greater than 60 degrees Celsius. Hot honey pools at the bottom of the bowl and eventually heats the wax to melting by conduction / radiation

Look out for the August Newsletter for Paul Drew's method of melting wax to overcome this disadvantage.

## Training by the NSW Apiarists' Association – Eucalyptus Identification Workshop – 5 and 6 August 2017



Beekeepers – are you currently taking a haphazard guess when the honey flow is on and never being ready in time and miss half of the flow? Do you want to know when your local eucalyptus are likely to flower but cannot identify an individual species to educate yourself thoroughly?

Have you ever wanted to be more self-assured when identifying where your honey came from, this workshop will give you the confidence to identify the flora your bees are accessing? Successful beekeepers are successful botanists, and the workshop will give you a solid foundation in the understanding and identification of eucalyptus.

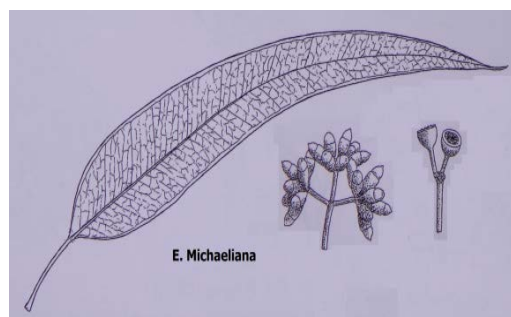
### EUCALYPTUS IDENTIFICATION WORKSHOP

Saturday, 5 and Sunday, 6 August 2017

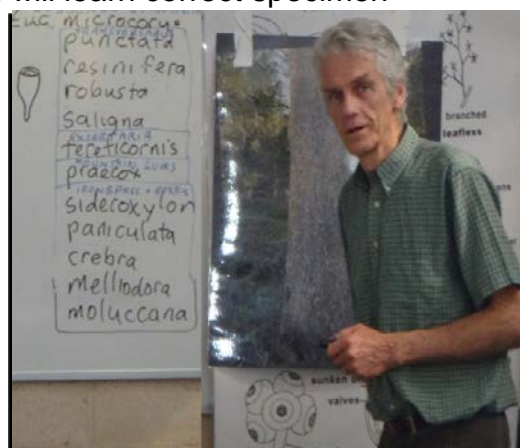
This workshop is aimed at improving your ability to identify tree species Angophora, Corymbia, with subgenus Eucalyptus, and others. You will learn correct specimen collection as well as the leaf, bark and fruit characteristics of trees. Also included is a comprehensive manual, the key to the identification. Up to 20 specimens are examined in the classroom

followed by a half-day identification excursion in the field.

If you have difficulty using “Clemson” or many other



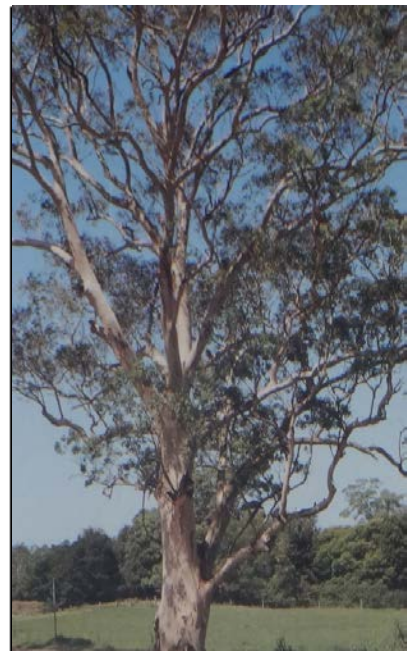
books or keys you will find the guidance of Van Klaphake invaluable. The trees identification using its characteristics of the natural relationship of bark, leaf, fruit and the locality are selected uniquely and individually for each tree.



Workshop run by Eucalypt expert Van Klaphake

The **SPECIES of the SYDNEY REGION** are covered, as this is the location of the workshop, but the characteristics learnt will enable you to use this key throughout Australia. The manual's key natural arrangement will allow the Flora, as the species are presented in the same order, to be used with much more confidence.

**This Workshop is suited to  
beekeepers, bush regenerators,  
botanists, plant enthusiasts and for  
general interest**



Workshop includes:

- Manual "Eucalypti of the Sydney Region"
- Classify more than 16 specimens (which you keep)
- Field excursion in Sutherland area covering sandstone and clay occurring species.

**Cost: \$150 per person**

The identification of Eucalypti is notoriously difficult. Past identification using keys or grouping under generic identifiers, for example bark or leaves, fail at the detail level. Identification is obscured, as there are too many species for artificial systems to work satisfactorily. Focusing on single characteristics does not indicate the relationships naturally occurring between tree and locality components.

A user-friendly key compiled to work well for botanists and people who have never used plant keys before is included. All species Angophora, Corymbia with subgenus Eucalyptus, Nothocalyptus, Symphiomyrtus plus Transversaria, Exsertaria, Maidenaria and Adnataria of the region are fully illustrated in the manual.

Workshop participants will learn which groups are actually related to each other and using this knowledge reaches a definite identification. A feel for the subject will develop and when out of your own area, where you might not know the gum trees, it will still be possible to identify new species. A map of the distribution of each tree in the region is also helpful for a quick reference.

**Eucalypt Identification Workshop**

- Saturday, 5 and Sunday, 6 August 2017
- Held in the Sutherland area
- Learn correct specimen collection
- Identify leaf, bark and fruit characteristics of trees
- Comprehensive 150 page manual - being a key to identification
- Half-day field excursion
- \$150.00 per person
- Lunch available \$10 pp per day

**Registration Form is over the page**

*Sydney Branch NSWAA - Workshop details please contact*

*Mike: 0438 316 040 | Paul: 1 0403 175 708 | Jane: 0413 769 411*



## Registration

### “EUCALYPTUS IDENTIFICATION WORKSHOP”



### **N.S.W. APIARISTS' ASSOCIATION**

Event organised by Sydney Branch NSWAA and supported by and at Illawarra Beekeepers Bee Garden.

**Where:** Illawarra Bee Garden Waratah Park 98 Eton Street Sutherland 2232 (map page 2).

**Date:** Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> July 2017      **Registration:** 8.30 am      **Time:** 9 am – 5 pm

**Cost:** \$150, including morning and afternoon tea with lunch an additional cost requested on this registration.

**Instruction:** by Van

Workshop includes 2 days of instruction by Van Klaphake and the workbook "Eucalypts of the Sydney Region"

Saturday and Sunday morning, sample identification of up to 20 Eucalyptus specimens using the natural relationship of the trees and environment with assistance of the workbook.

Sunday afternoon a field trip in the Sutherland and surrounding area examining sandstone and clay eucalyptus examples.

The apicultural value, nectar, pollen and flowering times of species covered in the workshop will be given.

For your own safety and comfort you will need to wear clothing and footwear suitable for walking on unmade ground in inclement weather.

**Name:**

**Email:**

**Contact Phone:**

**Address** (A postal address if unable to receive emails and for posting workbook)

Would you like to be posted, prior to the course, the workbook

"Eucalypts of the Sydney Region" for \$9.75      Yes    No

Would you like us to provide a lunch (gluten free Quiche & Salad)

Saturday      Yes    No      Bring Own    \$10

Sunday      Yes    No      Bring Own    \$10

*Please note that Sutherland shops are a ten minute drive away*

Do you have any questions for us?

Full payment of \$150 or deposit of \$50 plus amounts for lunches is required to confirm your place in the course.

Please note cash or cheque only available on the day.

Payment to be made to Illawarra Beekeepers at <https://illawarrabeekeepers.org.au/apiary-beekeepers-shop/>

OR New South Wales Apiarists Association Sydney Metropolitan Branch via

Cheque      or      Direct deposit      please circle which one

BSB 062-596    Account number 10071378    Reference: EWshop + Your name

Please email your completed copy of this registration relevant pages to [sydneybranch@nswaa.com.au](mailto:sydneybranch@nswaa.com.au)

Or post to Sydney Branch Secretary:

Jane Fittler    1 Wewak Place    Bossley Park    2176

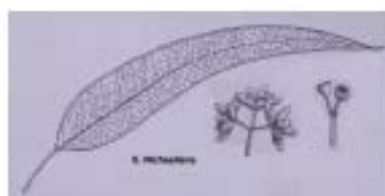
## Illawarra Beekeepers Bee Garden Location



"Eucalypts of the Sydney Region" A user-friendly key compiled to work well for botanists and people who have never used plant keys before is included. All species Angophora, Corymbia with subgenus Eucalyptus, Nothocalyptus, Symphiomyrtus plus Transversaria, Exsertaria, Maidenaria and Adnataria of the region are fully illustrated in the manual. Course participants will learn which groups are actually related to each other and using this knowledge reach a definite identification. A feel for the subject will develop and when out of your own area, where you might not know the gum trees, it will still be possible to identify new species. A map of the distribution of each tree in the region is also helpful for quick reference.

Thanks for your interest and we look forward to see you on the day.

**Van, Mike, Jane and Paul.**



**Contacts:** email [sydneybranch@nswaa.com.au](mailto:sydneybranch@nswaa.com.au) for further information.

**Mike 0438 316 040**

**Paul 0403 175 708**

**Jane 0413 769 411**

## 2017 Quick Reference to key position holder's contacts

Following is a 'Quick Reference' of position holders that you may need to contact throughout the year. Please always bear in mind that all position holders are volunteers and they too have a personal life and family commitments.

| Position   | Position Holder  | Contact Details  |
|--|------------------|--|
| <b>President</b>                                   | Peter Clarke     | <a href="mailto:peterandjanclarke1@bigpond.com">peterandjanclarke1@bigpond.com</a>     |
| <b>Vice President</b>                              | Dave Wilson      | <a href="mailto:secretary@beekeepers.asn.au">secretary@beekeepers.asn.au</a>           |
| <b>Secretary</b>                                   | Robyn Alderton   | <a href="mailto:parramattabeekeepers@hotmail.com">parramattabeekeepers@hotmail.com</a> |
| <b>Treasurer / Membership Officer</b>              | Paul Campbell    | <a href="mailto:paul.email2007@gmail.com">paul.email2007@gmail.com</a>                 |
| <b>Stores Officer</b>                              | Ross Easton      | <a href="mailto:reaston@tpg.com.au">reaston@tpg.com.au</a>                             |
| <b>Apiary Officer</b>                              | Arthur Garske    | <a href="mailto:awgarske@gmail.com">awgarske@gmail.com</a>                             |
| <b>Extraction Officer</b>                          | Lod Porretta     | <a href="mailto:porretta@live.com.au">porretta@live.com.au</a>                         |
| <b>Show Organiser</b>                              | Sandy Harrison   | <a href="mailto:milo.rob@bigpond.com">milo.rob@bigpond.com</a>                         |
| <b>New Member Liaison Officer</b>                  | Ashlee Ralla     | <a href="mailto:ashlee_ralla@yahoo.com.au">ashlee_ralla@yahoo.com.au</a>               |
| <b>New Member Colony Supply Officer</b>            | Gary Christoffel | <a href="mailto:gmchristoffel@gmail.com">gmchristoffel@gmail.com</a>                   |
| <b>Librarian</b>                                   | Bill Dick        | <a href="mailto:wdi57088@bigpond.net.au">wdi57088@bigpond.net.au</a>                   |
| <b>Extractor Custodian Officer 1 (Lalor Park)</b>  | Bernie Gesling   | <a href="mailto:bgesling@yahoo.com">bgesling@yahoo.com</a>                             |
| <b>Extractor Custodian Officer 2 (Beecroft)</b>    | Keith Robinson   | <a href="mailto:keithrob@tpg.com.au">keithrob@tpg.com.au</a>                           |
| <b>Extractor Custodian Officer 3 (Castle Hill)</b> | Lod Porretta     | <a href="mailto:porretta@live.com.au">porretta@live.com.au</a>                         |
| <b>Education Officer</b>                           | Arthur Garske    | <a href="mailto:awgarske@gmail.com">awgarske@gmail.com</a>                             |

## Beekeeper Training Available

By Robyn Alderton

The Club continues to provide new beekeepers with the opportunity to learn all they can about beekeeping through Beginning in Bees Workshops. These Workshops are run by our very experienced Arthur Garske for a nominal fee.

Following is a list of training courses on offer:

- Bee box assembly
- Lid and bottom board making
- Frame making
- Hive opening

To express your interest in any of the courses listed above contact Arthur on: [awgarske@gmail.com](mailto:awgarske@gmail.com) Training is run by volunteers, therefore courses will not be run until minimum numbers are reached. Maximum number accepted is 10.

There is a small fee which covers ancillary costs; the course fee MUST be paid in advance.

# Beekeeping in Japan

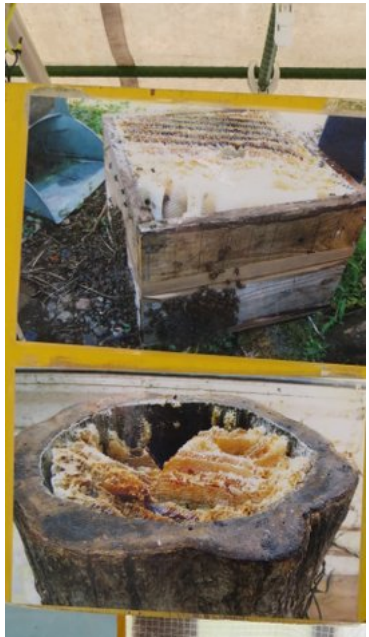
Ralph and Sandra Cadman and Mark and Jane Robards (Ralph and Sandra's daughter) visited Japan in late April where they met some Japanese long standing family friends in the Nagoya and Gifu district.

While visiting they had a side trip to Takayama which is a lovely historical town in the mountains. It was particularly pretty in cherry blossom season. They attended the town morning market where they came across a small honey stand. The seller had a few hives and you will note from the photographs below that their beekeeping process is different to ours and very natural in its process.

Ralph would like to draw your attention to the prices. The current exchange rate is about JPY 78 to our dollar making the 550 g jar about \$102.00.



Thank  
you  
Ralph



## Club Shop

The Club Shop is open for business prior to each meeting, opening at 7.00 pm.

Shop space is very limited, please queue outside the shop and await your turn to be served.

Your patience is appreciated.

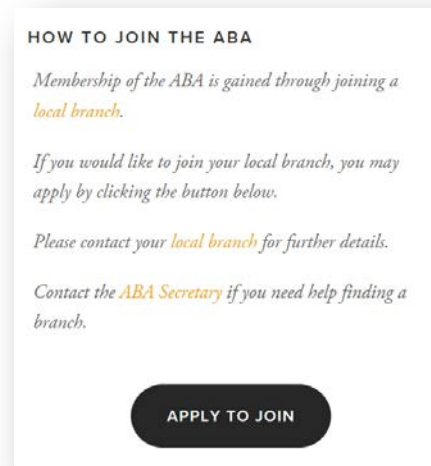


## ABA Fees 2017

Members should refer to emails sent through the ABA for the 2017 Fee structure. If you have misplaced that email, go to:

[www.beekeepers.asn.au](http://www.beekeepers.asn.au)

and scroll down to 'How to join the ABA' (image at right)



To join the Parramatta Branch of the ABA, fees are as follows:

| Compulsory ABA capitation fee   |                  |                  | to which can be added | Optional personal insurance policy for beekeeping activities |                                 |                  |                  |
|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------------|--|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| <del>“early bird special”</del> | 2017 fee Jan-Dec | 2017 fee Jan-Jun |                       | number of hives  | <del>“early bird special”</del> | 2017 fee Jan-Dec | 2017 fee Jan-Jun |
| <b>\$45.00</b>                  | \$50.00          | \$25.00          |                       | 1 to 20  | <b>\$45.00</b>                  | \$50.00          | \$25.00          |
|                                 |                  |                  |                       | 1 to 50  | <b>\$65.00</b>                  | \$70.00          | \$35.00          |
|                                 |                  |                  | 1 to 100              | <b>\$80.00</b>   | \$85.00                         | \$42.50          |                  |

## Future events

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| 14 June 2017        | 7.30 pm Parramatta Monthly Meeting (followed by a light supper)<br>Feature: Medicinal Honey by Dr Shona Blair |
| 18 June 2017        | 8.30 Prepare for next season - paint and build  |
| 21 June 2017        | 6.00 pm Parramatta Executive Meeting at Carlingford Bowling Club  |
| 12 July 2017        | Christmas in July Meeting - Location  |
| 16 July 2017        | 8.30 am Prepare for next season - paint and build   |
| 9 August 2017       | 7.30 pm Parramatta Monthly Meeting (followed by a light supper)   |
| 13 August 2017      | 8.30 am Prepare for new season - Swarms   |
| 13 September 2017   | 7.30 pm Parramatta Monthly Meeting (followed by a light supper)   |
| 11 October 2017     | 7.30 pm Parramatta Monthly Meeting (followed by a light supper)   |
| 15 October 2017     | 8.30 am Apiary check  |
| 8 November 2017     | 7.30 pm Parramatta Monthly Meeting (followed by a light supper)   |
| 13 December 2017    | Christmas Club (and Family) BBQ   |
| 18, 29, 20 May 2018 | St Ives Show  |
| 17, 18, 19 May 2019 | St Ives Show  |

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

Please email your Newsletter enquiries to: [parramattabeekeepers@hotmail.com](mailto:parramattabeekeepers@hotmail.com)

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