



Next meeting | Wednesday 2nd July 2025

Where | Johnsonville Community Centre

Editor | Jane Harding janeh@xtra.co.nz

No beginners session this month.

Main Meeting: 7.30pm

AGM, then Karin Kos from ApiNZ will talk to us about what's happening in the industry from the perspective of ApiNZ.

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From the Editor

Mostly AGM material this month, but there's still interesting stuff to read in here!!



AGM

Agenda for 2025 AGM

2025 Annual General Meeting of the Wellington Beekeepers Association 2 JULY 2025.

**To be held at the Johnsonville Community Centre,
Frankmoore Avenue, Johnsonville at 7.30pm**

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of previous AGM
3. Matters arising
4. President's Report
5. Treasurers Report
6. Election of Officers –
 - President
 - Treasurer
 - Secretary
7. Membership Fee
8. AFB Fee and infected hive reimbursement
9. Resolution to Accept New Constitution
10. General Business
 - WBA Membership of Southern North Island Bee Group



Minutes of the 2024 AGM

2024 Annual General Meeting of the Wellington Beekeepers Association

3 July 2024

**Held at the Johnsonville Community Centre, Frankmore Avenue at
7.30pm**

Tricia Laing welcomed members

1. Present – Tricia Laing, Jane Harding, John Burnet, PK Tan, Barbara Parkinson, Frank Lindsay, James Withington, James Scott, Eva Durrant, Janine Davie and about 35 members.
2. Apologies - Viv Harris, Jill Dalton, Jim Hepburn, Graeme Chisnall, Ellen Millar, Bob Kensington
3. Minutes of previous AGM. Noted
4. Matters Arising. No matters arising
5. Presidents Report. Noted. Moved to be accepted
6. Treasurer's Report – John Burnet presented the accounts. AFB reimbursement fund has a balance of \$13800. John suggested that some of the AFB levy funding that is not spent on AFB reimbursement could be used to support local AFB research. Discussion on this topic ensued and members agree this should be a topic for a monthly meeting. Committee to develop some proposals and present at a future time. John Burnet moved the Financial Accounts be accepted, seconded Tricia Laing.
7. Election of Officers:
President: Janine Davie – nominated by John Burnet, seconded Tricia Laing.
Vice President – no nominations for VP.



Treasurer – John Burnet – nominated by Jane Harding, seconded Millie Baker.

Secretary – Jane Harding – moved John Burnet, seconded Tricia Laing.

There being no other nominations for these, roles, the above were considered elected.

8. Election of Other Committee members

Tricia Laing

PK Tan

Barbara Parkinson

James Scott

Jim Hepburn

Graeme Chisnall

Millie Baker

Webmaster: Jason Bragg - tbc

Librarian: Ellen Millar

Carried.

9. Membership Fee

Club membership fee recommended to stay at \$25.00, \$7.50 of which goes into the AFB fund to reimburse members who need to destroy AFB infected hives. Carried

10. AFB Fee and infected hive reimbursement



John moved a motion that the reimbursement amount be raised to \$200 to better reflect the costs of new hiveware. Seconded Jane Harding. Carried.

11. Review of Constitution

James Scott advised members of the work that he was undertaking to revise the constitution to bring it into line with the new Incorporated Societies Act which takes effect in 2026. The revised constitution will be circulated to members in time for it to be reviewed and adopted at the 2025 AGM.

12. General Business

There were no items of general business raised.

Meeting closed at 8.05pm.

AGM – Presidents Report

This is my President's report for the Wellington Beekeepers' Association's 85th Annual General Meeting.

This is my first year as president of the Wellington Beekeepers' Association and I find myself still settling into the position. My heartfelt thanks to Frank Lindsay who can always be relied upon to offer sage advice and step into the breach when disasters such as me forgetting what day it is occur. James Scott has done some great work rewriting the club constitution. There is a legal requirement to do so and for it to be adopted prior to January 2026, there will be some discussion about this at the Annual General Meeting.



I would like to draw your attention to a proposed change in the Constitution

7.13 A member of the Association may serve up to seven (7) consecutive years in any one office on the Executive Committee. Service beyond seven years is subject to being elected unopposed at each AGM however no member may serve more than ten (10) consecutive years in the same office. John Burnet has decided to stand down from his role as treasurer, a position he has held in excess of 10 years. I can't stress enough what a great job John has done in this role and how much his work is appreciated. We are hoping to divide up the various jobs he performs so the role is less onerous for the next incumbent.

I would also like to thank Tricia Laing and John Burnet for the work they have done advising the local councils regarding new Bylaws. I understand that Wellington City Council Bylaw has been finalised with beekeepers allowed a maximum of 4 hives per section. Porirua City Council has also finished public consultation and reported they expected to formally adopt a limit of a maximum of 4 hives per section. The definition of nuisance has been updated with an explanatory note providing examples. The Bylaw will come into effect on 1 July. Both WCC and PCC have expressed their thanks for help with consultation and expect to work with WBA in the future and take advantage of offers of training and assistance offered.

Our membership numbers continue to decline so it's great to see some new, very keen members attending the beginner classes and the main meetings. We don't do exit surveys so can only guess at the continued decline in membership. It appears to be relatively recent members so we surmise that beekeeping is not as easy as people assume and keeping on top of varroa in particular is challenging. With the continued difficult economic situation it can be expensive to buy all the equipment and treatments required. Throughout the year new members continue to have the opportunity to gain hands on experience at the club hives in Chartwell and Wingate. Thanks to Frank Lindsay, John Burnet, Richard Braczek, Michele van Daalen and Reb Bakker for their supervision of these hives.



Frank Lindsay and John Burnet again ran a successful Beginner's course in September/October 2024 attended by 12 participants.

Varroa continues to be the single biggest challenge to successful beekeeping at the moment. We are incredibly lucky to have the expertise of Frank Lindsay to advise us on the latest treatments – what they are and when to apply them. We have also benefitted from keeping up with what is going on with bee-related research at Victoria University under the supervision of Phil Lester.

Finding meeting topics which are interesting and topical for the vast range of experience of club members continues to be a challenge, if anyone has any suggestions the committee are always keen to hear them. Highlights of the previous year have been Zoe Smeele's update on her research into using pathogen-specific double-strand RNA molecules to target varroa; Richard Braczek's presentation about making mead; the video evening watching "Honey Bee Democracy" and Mark Wendelken's presentation about climate change titled "The Bigger Picture" which I regretfully missed but which was reportedly sobering and compelling.

I have previously voiced my appreciation for the contribution of various Committee Members during the year, but I wish to acknowledge in particular: Jane Harding for her work as Secretary, James Withington for continuing to keep our Facebook page up-to-date; our new librarian Tatjana Manabe who has taken over from Ellen Millar; Jim Hepburn for managing the swarm list, John Burnet for his ongoing work in all things financial (accounts, honey testing, varroa treatment sales) as well as his contribution to helping new beekeepers and Eva Durant for undertaking the accounting review; Graham Chisnal for sharing his knowledge and experience with new beekeepers in many of the Beginners' Classes, and Barbara Parkinson and Liz Tan for their excellent catering.

Janine Davie 2025



AGM – Financial Reports

Balance Sheet

Wellington Beekeepers Association Inc

Balance Sheet as at 31 May 2025

<u>2024</u>		<u>2025</u>
Liabilities & Members Funds		
Accumulated Funds		
15312	General Fund as at 1 June 2024	13803
160	minus Accounts Rec for year ended 31 May 2024	0
1349	minus Income/Expenditure deficit for 2025	2578
	(refer Income & Expenditure statement)	
13803	Balance of General Fund as at 31 May 2025	11225
13834	AFB Fund as at 1 June 2024	13174
1500	Plus members' AFB contributions for year	1725
-2160	Less AFB Reimbursement expenses	1200
13174	Balance of AFB Fund as at 31 May 2025	13699
	(refer Note 2)	
26977	Balances of all funds as at 31 May 2025	24924
Assets		
1570	Westpac Cheque Account	4699
14589	Westpac On-Call Savings Account	8789



Wellington Beekeepers Association

Support and encouragement of beekeeping and beekeepers

26977

Total all Bank Accounts

24924

26977

Balances as at 31 May 2025

24924

Statements of Account prepared by:

John Burnet (Hon.
Treasurer)

Statements of Account verified by:

Eva Durrant (Reviewer)



Income and Exenditure

Wellington Beekeepers Association Inc Income & Expenditure Statement for year ended 31 May 2025 (inclusive of GST)

<u>2024</u>		<u>2025</u>	
	Income		
4985	Members subscriptions 2022/23	5125	Note 1
-1500	less AFB Fund contributions	1725	Note 2
3485	Total Subscription Income	3400	
44	Donations & Sundry Income	955	Note 3
520	Extractor Hire	325	
0	Wax Dipping Receipts (less energy costs)	20	
1015	Bank Interest	826	
3000	Training Course Receipts	2000	Note 4
3420	Queen & Nuc Colony Receipts	3930	Note 5
6498	Varroa Treatment Sales	8122	
0	Book sales	310	
14497		16488	16488
17982	Total Income	19888	
	Expenses		
1683	Meeting room hire	1716	
16	Printing & Stationery expenses	57	Note 6
141	General expenses	187	Note 7
278	Meeting supper expenses	305	
70	Guest speaker expenses	0	
2562	Frank Lindsay award celebration	0	
349	Xero Consulting & Accounting	345	Note 8
1311	Hello Club member mgmt system annual sub	1104	
253	Apiculture NZ subscription	125	
207	Internet subscription & website support	1774	
30	Cup & Trophy Engraving	39	
1354	Club Hive expenses (non-equipment purchases)	2854	Note 9
1260	Training Course expenses	1733	Note 4
3646	Queen & Nuc Colony expenses	3375	Note 5
-62	Tutin Testing expenses (less receipts)	91	Note 10
180	Equipment repairs & maintenance (extractors)	82	
0	Wax Dipping expenses (paraffin wax)	0	0
6053	Varroa Treatment purchases	8199	
0	Book purchases	480	
19331		22466	22466

Assets Purchased & Depreciated :

Note 11



0	Club Apiary	0
0	Club equipment	0
0	Books purchased for Library	0
<u>0</u>		<u>0</u>
19331	Total Expenditure	22466
<u>-1349</u>	Surplus / Deficit	Deficit
		<u>-2578</u>

Notes to the Accounts

Wellington Beekeepers Association Inc. Notes to Accounts for Year ending 31 May 2025

Note

1

Membership - 230 financial members as at 31 May 2025

Plus 16 fee-free members (partners of paid members), 14 honorary (schools etc.) and life members

5 associate members (other beekeeping clubs)

Note

2

AFB refund - \$7.50 is retained from each subscription and held for reimbursement to any

Club member who has to destroy an AFB infected hive (refer Balance Sheet)

6 claims from 4 members totalling \$1200 (\$200 per hive) rec'd for year to 31 May 2025

Note

3

Sale of honey from Chartwell apiary to Bee Fresh Farms (127 kg @ \$7.50)

Note

4

Basic Beekeeping Training course held Spring 2024 - 8 participants paying \$250 (Profit \$268)

Note

5

Queen & Nuc colony receipts - 48 x queens purchased from West Coast breeder and on-sold at cost



- Note
6 Printing & Stationery - photocopying of financial accounts
- Note
7 General Expenses - general administration and courier costs
- Note
8 Xero Consulting & Accounting - online accounting and bank reconciliation fees
- Note
9 Club Hive Expenses - Includes apiary levies (\$116), varroa treatment (Chartwell \$306, Wingate \$389)
- Sugar for Wingate hives (\$499), New queens - Chartwell (\$618), Public Liability Insurance for Chartwell apiary (\$454), Hutt CC - Wingate Park lease (\$23).
- Note
10 Tutin Testing - 40 members paid \$20 each for lab testing and courier costs.
- Small loss resulted due to testing of Club hive honey and underestimate of increased courier costs.
- Note
11 Depreciation - all new assets depreciated in full in year of purchase in terms of Club policy.



Photo Competition Deferred

Regulars will know that we usually have our annual photo competition in July alongside the AGM. For various reasons this won't be happening and we will be holding the competition later this year. So, get the cameras out and get ready for taking some great shots for showing later in 2025.



Not a winning picture...but a nice photo of bees in yellow pohutukawa....

Beginners Beekeeping Course

Wellington Beekeepers Association will once again be running our Beginners Beekeeping Course. The course involves 5 evening sessions and a half-day field trip to one of the club apiaries.

The next course starts on 4 September (Thursday) at the Johnsonville Community Centre and costs \$250. Link here to the registration form:

<https://www.beehive.org.nz/beginners-course/>



Disposal of Old Hiveware

The Club is proposing to organise an old hive-ware collection and disposal project similar to one held by Auckland beekeepers recently. We will collect this unwanted and possibly contaminated gear from your property on a pre-arranged date and time and organize its safe destruction. This helps to reduce the risk of spreading AFB (American Foulbrood), the spores of which can linger and survive in used hive-ware for over 50 years. To cover costs there will be a fee of \$5 per box or bin bag containing any old hive-ware or equipment that may be contaminated.

To determine viability of this project and effort/resources required, we need to determine how many members are interested in participating and how much gear they will have for collection/destruction. If you are keen to participate please advise the Treasurer by email to treasurer@beehive.org.nz your name, address for hive-ware collection and amount of gear to be collected i.e. estimate of number of boxes, bin bags etc.

Any enquiries to John Burnet at email address above or Phone 0274-379-062.



E.g. if your hiveware looks like this...



Establishment of NZ Bee Health and Biosecurity

Industry announcement – AFB Management Agency to become New Zealand Bee Health & Biosecurity (NZBB)

27 June 2025

Formal announcement to industry

The Board of The Management Agency National American Foulbrood Pest Management Plan (The Management Agency) is pleased to inform the apiculture industry of the formation of New Zealand Bee Health & Biosecurity (NZBB), a charitable trust that has been appointed by the Minister for Biosecurity as the management agency for the Biosecurity (National American Foulbrood Pest Management Plan) Order 1998 (AFB NPMP), under section 100D of the Biosecurity Act 1993.

For FAQs, [CLICK HERE](#).

For the Minister for Biosecurity's Press release, [CLICK HERE](#).

For Apiculture New Zealand Inc's announcement, [CLICK HERE](#).

From The Management Agency to NZBB

To ensure a smooth transition, this strategic change will be led by the existing AFB NPMP Management Agency Board and executed by Niharika (Niha) Long, who will become Chief Executive of NZBB.

The new entity will assume all the current responsibilities of The Management Agency in supporting New Zealand beekeepers' efforts against American Foulbrood (AFB).

In addition to taking over The Management Agency's compliance activities,



NZBB will continue to focus on AFB-related training and education, and consult with the sector on the merits of gradually expanding its scope to general honey bee disease management.

Pending a sector-wide consultation and support from beekeepers, NZBB will also facilitate biosecurity preparedness for exotic bee pests & disease incursion, in collaboration with other primary industry partners and Biosecurity New Zealand. Details of this consultation will be announced once confirmed.

What will change?

Aside from its activities related to administering, operating, and achieving the objectives of the AFB NPMP, NZBB will also:

- advance education and awareness in the industry on the management and prevention of AFB,
- set up Advisory Groups (AG) as a communication channel between industry and the NZBB Board of Trustees and to acquire specialist knowledge and expertise from beekeepers on issues of significance to the sector,
- collaborate with horticulture industry partners who rely on pollination services to improve hive health and traceability for managing AFB levels,
- collaborate with public agencies and research organisations for new tools that aid in the elimination of AFB,
- train and educate new and existing beekeepers on biosecurity practices that instill preparedness for AFB outbreaks.

It is expected that the above changes will eventually prepare the industry for the arrival of novel bee pests & diseases. We are supporting this organizational change with the launch of a new NZBB website, enabling us



to provide credible, current information that is accessible, understandable, and actionable for beekeepers.

Please note that the new name and branding will undergo a phased-rollout across all our current communication channels with beekeepers.

For more information, please visit www.nzbb.org.nz

What will stay the same?

While the name and look of our organisation have changed, our committed team of Apiary Coordinators, Operations Managers, Training and Levy Coordinator, Authorised Persons, and AFB Recognition course trainers will continue to deliver our services. Many of our team are beekeepers themselves and look forward to gradually expanding our scope to provide a more comprehensive service to NZ beekeepers in their vigilance against honey bee diseases.

NZBB will continue supporting beekeepers by:

- Implementing the AFB NPMP to achieve the objectives of the NPMP and supporting beekeepers with their statutory obligations;
- Running the AFB Recognition Training course; AFB Recognition refresher course; and the Commercial AFB refresher course,
- Continuing to empower beekeepers with the right tools and support for dealing with AFB incidences, and
- Monitoring beekeeper compliance with the AFB NPMP and taking compliance and enforcement actions, wherever appropriate.

What does this mean for beekeepers?

Beekeeper levy funds will continue to exclusively fund the implementation of the AFB NPMP.



Our gradual inclusion of focus over time on general honey bee diseases aligns well with our existing resources and training. When we advise and support beekeepers to keep on top of inspection, quarantine, and traceability protocols, we are supporting beekeepers to develop proactive honey bee disease management. These skills apply to AFB, general honey bee diseases, and exotic bee pests and diseases.

We are confident that this new structure will enable us to work towards a more collaborative and resilient beekeeping industry that is actively prepared to fight honey bee disease incursion and is sustainable for the future.

New Zealand Bee Health & Biosecurity (NZBB)

Supporting Aotearoa New Zealand beekeepers keep healthy honey bees

For more information, please visit: www.nzbb.org.nz Call us on 0800 232 767 or email info@nzbb.org.nz

Club Honey for Sale

Honey from the Club hives at Chartwell will be available at the meeting on Wed - \$12 each.

Payment by cash (exact amount please - no change available) or payment to club's bank account following issue of invoice.

Any enquiries to Treasurer – John Burnet, Phone 0274-379-062 or treasurer@beehive.org.nz



Who can I speak to?

President – Janine Davie president@beehive.org.nz

Treasurer – John Burnet 027-4379-062 treasurer@beehive.org.nz

Secretary – Jane Harding 027 421 2417 secretary@beehive.org.nz

Membership - James Scott - (04) 565 0164

Web Master - Jason Bragg - (021 527 244)

Supper co-ordinator - Barbara Parkinson – (04) 2379624

Swarm WhatsApp Administrator - Jim Hepburn (021 926823)

PK Tan - 021 109 3388

Graeme Chisnall - 021-246-8662

Frank Lindsay - 027-403-4559

Newsletter Editor - Jane Harding - 027 421 2417