

BENDIGO BRANCH V.A.A. INC. – 41ST ANNUAL BEEKEEPING FIELD DAY 2020
CANCELLATION OF 11TH OCTOBER 2020 HARCOURT FIELD DAY - RE COVID-19

The Bendigo Branch V.A.A. Inc.'s President and executive committee has decided, in the interest of public health, after careful consideration of the collated opinions (*gained via a survey of its members*) and together with thorough consideration of the health advice, guidelines and pandemic restrictions regarding COVID-19, to cancel this year's 2020 annual beekeeping field day which is usually held at Harcourt.

As you are aware this is a rapidly changing situation. Bendigo Branch's main priority is to ensure the health and safety of all beekeepers, traders, general public, volunteers, members and participants involved. This decision has not been made lightly. We apologise for any inconvenience caused to all who were looking forward to this event. However, we would be devastated, if after conducting 40 years of successful field days, if 2020's 41st event was to become famous for being remembered for all the wrong reasons - by holding one that became a "Hot Spot of COVID-19."

We would like to assure everyone that subject to new or continuing COVID-19 restrictions we will be working towards conducting our annual beekeeping field day again on the second Sunday of October in 2021.

In the meantime, Bendigo Branch is exploring the possibilities of keeping its members connected by holding Q&A educational sessions and/or business meetings etc., replacing face to face meetings, by using the on-line resource of ZOOM.

The Committee thanks everyone for their understanding and patience as we negotiate our way through this difficult period. We trust that you will be able to continue supporting the beekeeping community by attending our next beekeeping field day and perhaps, in the meantime, linking with us via Facebook and ZOOM.

We look forward to the future.

Kind Regards,

Carol Maunder (Secretary)

On behalf of Bendigo Branch V.A.A. Inc.