

Graham Royle

Celebrated National Speaker from Cheshire
Will give two talks to Kent Beekeepers

Sunday 15 November, 2pm

Lenham Community Hall

Groom Way, Lenham ME17 2QT (just off A20/M20)

The Honeybee outside in

Close up of the external and internal design of the bee and how it has evolved to carry out its many tasks so efficiently!
and

If Heath Robinson had been a Beekeeper

Hints and Tips, Widgets and Thingamabobs
20 years of practical beekeeping experience

Doors open at 1.00pm first lecture 2.00pm

Also:

Entry fee includes prize draw

Bookstall

Equipment stand

Tickets £4 in advance £5 on the day

Details from Terry Hardy 01622 832066

theresa.hardy@virgin.net

6 Springrove Cottages

Goudhurst Road

Marden

Kent TN12 9JU



KENT BEE-KEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

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Registered Office: National Beekeeping Centre, RASE, Stoneleigh Park, Kenilworth. CV8 2LG



No. 46

COUNTY NEWSLETTER

October 2009

National Honey Show

The National Honey Show will be held at St. Georges College, Weybridge, Surrey from 29 - 31 October. How about visiting the event and attending the lectures or one of the twenty workshops being held this year? The AGM will be held on Thursday this year, but the prize giving will be on Saturday afternoon as usual.

Subscriptions

Subscriptions are due on 1st October. For many of you it feels as if it was only a couple of months ago you paid last time, but it will be nearly a year, doesn't time fly! The Ordinary subscription is £40 and includes BBKA membership as well as BeeCraft magazine. Please note the twelve issues included in the subscription are February 2010 to January 2011. If you don't have bees and don't require the BBKA part then a Friend membership at £6 might be just what you want. In this case BeeCraft is optional for an extra £18. For new members extra BeeCraft magazines up to February may be purchased at £1.50 each copy. Please pay promptly. It is such a lot of work for Treasurer's if they keep having to send reminders. Late payers may miss a copy of BeeCraft too as these are paid for up front.

Annual General Meetings

Most Branch AGM's are held in November so please attend and support your Officers. The rumour that if you attend an AGM and sneeze at the wrong time you will find yourself Chairman or Secretary is definitely not true, but if your arm hurts before the meeting due to excessive twisting then you may know what to expect! It is amazing how much work is done in the background and when there is a good attendance at meetings all the work seems worthwhile. The interest in bees and beekeeping has meant more than one hundred new members have enrolled during the year in Kent BKA so we should see record attendances at meetings over the winter.

Along with others I give talks on beekeeping across the Country and often I am told by the secretary that I am going to a different location than originally informed because the group has outgrown the hall they originally booked!

John Hendrie

CALENDAR October – December 2009

Branch Events

Ashford

- Fri 2nd Oct 7:30 pm Nick Gammans will talk about ‘Bumblebees’.
Fri 6th Nov 7:30 pm Annual Dinner at the Half-Way on the A251 near Challock.
Fri 13th Nov 7:30 pm Terry Clare will talk about the Aims & Objectives of BIBBA.
Fri 4th Dec 7:30 pm Annual General Meeting.
Meetings at St. Mary’s Community Centre, Rylands Road, Kennington, TN24 9LN.

Bromley

- Sun 4th Oct 11:30 am Apiary meeting. Refreshments provided.
Tues 17th Nov 7:30 pm Annual General Meeting. Refreshments including cheese & wine.
Meetings at the Branch Clubhouse, Kent House Road allotments.

Canterbury

- Wed 7th Oct 7:30 pm Stuart Andrews on "Experiences with a Tanzanian top-bar hive" and Adrian Davis on "Mistakes of a novice beekeeper - a photographic diary".
Wed 4th Nov 7:30 pm Annual General Meeting.
Wed 2nd Dec 7:30 pm Quiz Night and social evening.
at [Stelling Minnis Village Hall, Bossingham Rd, Stelling Minnis CT4 6AG](#)

Dartford

No meetings notified

Gravesend

- Sat 24th Oct 3:00 pm Mavis Righini who runs the Hedgehog Rehabilitation Centre will give a talk on her work as well as bringing along some of her Prickly friends.
St. Mary’s Church Hall, Sole Street, Meopham.

Mid Kent

- Thurs 15th Oct 7:30 pm Sudi Austin will talk on Products of the hive.
Thurs 19th Nov 7:30 pm Annual General Meeting
December Date TBA. The Branch Annual Dinner.
Meetings at the Bull Public House, East Farleigh.

Orpington

- Wed 14th Oct 8:00 pm Lecture on Microscopy.
Wed 11th Nov 8:00 pm Annual General Meeting
At Atomwide Offices 2 Ravensquay Business Centre, Cray Avenue, Orpington.

Sevenoaks & Tunbridge Wells

- Tues 20th Oct 7:30 pm St Edith’s Hall Kemsing - Nick Withers - ‘Slovenian Beekeeping’.
Tues 17th Nov 7:30 pm St Edith’s Hall Kemsing - Annual General Meeting & Prize giving.

Sidcup

- All Saturdays Afternoon meetings at Ruxley Apiary, Honeydale Farm or Baldwyns.

Weald

- Sat 17th Oct 3:00 pm Back to Basics talk by Bob Smith.
Sat 21st Nov 2:00 pm AGM followed by Round up of the year.
Sat 12th Dec Christmas Dinner.
For details and venues contact Nick Mengham 01233 840660 or 07884 231514

Westerham

- Wed 28th Oct 8:00 pm Annual General Meeting and honey competition.

Meeting at Westerham Hall, Quebec Avenue, Westerham.

Whitstable

No meetings notified - Please contact Julie Coleman for details - 01227 751719.

County and Other Events

- Sat 3rd Oct BBKA Forum at Stoneleigh.
Sat 10th Oct 10:00 am Council Meeting at Margaret Calder Pavilion, Detling.
29 - 31 Oct National Honey Show at St. Georges College, Weybridge.
Sun 15th Nov Lecture day at Lenham. Details on back page.
Sat 12th Dec 10:00 am Council Meeting at Margaret Calder Pavilion, Detling.
Sat 16th Jan 2010 10:30 am BBKA ADM at Stoneleigh.
Sat 13th March Medway BKA Open Lecture. Details to follow.
Sat 20th March BBKA Exams. Modules 1 to 8 are available. £18 per module.
16 - 18 April BBKA Spring Convention at Stoneleigh.
16 - 18 July Kent Show at Detling
26 - 31 July Irish Summer School at Gormanston near Dublin

Graham Royle

Graham started beekeeping in 1988 and started to study for the BBKA examinations in 1995 when he decided he wanted to know a lot more about the bees he was keeping. His studies resulted in achieving the BBKA Master Beekeeper certificate in 2002 and the National Diploma in Beekeeping in 2004. He was also awarded the Wax Chandler’s prize in 2002. Graham’s main interests in beekeeping are queen rearing and stock improvement. He is also heavily involved with the education of beekeepers at all levels.

Apimondia

There were a number of Kent beekeepers at Montpellier for the 41st Apimondia in September and we were blessed with good weather and an excellent reception by the French beekeepers. There were about 2000 delegates from 61 countries and we was told all hotels were full for miles around. There were many reports and discussion about CCD. A combination of residual chemicals in beeswax from varroa treatments over 15 years, use of chemicals in agriculture and many new bee viruses were cited as likely causes, but no single culprit has yet been identified. Perhaps a weak part of the French organisation was the ‘technical’ tours on the Sunday. Many didn’t see what was advertised and where our group had lunch we had to clean the cobwebs from the tables first! The city of Kiev in Ukraine won the vote to hold the 2013 Apimondia. 2011 will be held in Buenos Aires.

John Hendrie

Congratulations

Another beekeeper has passed the **Basic Assessment** The successful candidate is Patrick Hillman from Ashford Branch.

You should now be thinking about the modules next March. The BBKA run correspondence courses for all eight of the modules. Module 4 Intermediate Honeybee Biology will be phased out after next year so 2010 is your last chance for this module.

Visit the Kent Beekeepers web site: www.kentbee.com

Meetings in the next issue of the Calendar will cover December - February and please note that all details should be sent to John Hendrie, KBKA General Secretary, 26 Coldharbour Lane, Hildenborough TN11 9JT or email: bibba26@tiscali.co.uk or tel: 01732 833894, by 20th Nov. with items for inclusion in the next issue. Many thanks.