



KENT BEE-KEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

County Newsletter No. 85 March 2017

EDITORIAL

This, the 85th edition of the Kent Bee-keepers' Association County Newsletter, comes six months after the last. We apologise for this, with some sincerity.

Jenny Spon-Smith, for which grateful thanks are due, handed responsibility for the newsletter to Simon Wilks, who can be reached at newsletter@kbka.org.uk. please feel free to submit news, complaints and gossip whenever you feel the urge. Mr Wilks has also become the KBKA webmaster, and a new website is in development, which should allow some streamlining of information flows.

In pursuit of that, a new Google Calendar (at <https://tinyurl.com/kbka-calendar>) has been posted, in the hope it will be of use to those with new-fangled smartphones. For those who prefer to stare at fridge doors, a traditional summary of events is below.

MARGARET CALDER PAVILION

The Margaret Calder Pavilion at the Kent County Showground near Detling will, sadly, no longer be our base at the show. It is in need of some repair but, as asbestos has been found, it won't be viable to fix it and it will instead be demolished.

Discussions with the Showground are ongoing, but an alternative space has been offered and looks likely to be suitable, at least for our annual presence at the show, between 7-9 July 2017. As usual, volunteers will be needed, so please make a note of those dates.

BBKA Examination Results

Microscopy Certificate – Julie Coleman, Whitstable and Herne Bay

Congratulations to Julie, and good luck to those taking modules this month. The deadline for applications for November modules is September 30th.

COUNTY AND OTHER EVENTS

Bromley

Tuesday, 21st March Moving and Handling for Beekeepers
Julie Bowden Msc, Bsc, Dip N (London),
RGN Moving and Handling Trainer.

Tuesday, 18th April 8mm of nothing
Robert Smith

An in depth look at the implications of bee space from Kent's number one bee expert.

All evenings will begin at 7.30 p.m. The Clubhouse, Kent House Road Allotments (entrance opposite Woodbastwick Road), Lower Sydenham SE26 5LJ

Yalding

Bob Smith and Lis Samuelson are giving talks as follows at The Chequers in Laddingford at 8.00 pm. Lis Samuelson is a researcher who has been studying waggles dances in the apiary and will present her interim findings to us and Bob Smith is known to many of our members. You will be more than welcome to come along.

27 March 2017	The Asian Hornet and other Exotic Pests	Bob Smith
24 April 2017	Managing the Workers	Bob Smith
31 July 2017	Winter Preparations	Bob Smith

Bee Tradex **Saturday, 4th March**

Hall H3 Stoneleigh Park CV8 2LG

9.00 am to 4.00 pm

40+ traders

£4.00 per person if booked on line - £5.00 on the day

www.beetradex.co.uk

Wisborough Green Division - West Sussex BKA Beekeeping Course

Suitable for Beginners, Improvers, and Non - Beekeepers

Saturday, 11th March 2017

At:- Village Hall, Lower Street, Pulborough, West Sussex. RH20 2BF.

Assemble from 9.00 for 9.30-5.00 p.m. approx

The course is suitable for those who wish to discover what is involved in keeping bees and also for those who have kept bees for some time. It will largely follow the syllabus of the BBKA Basic assessment, but with variations. This course is based on over 50 years experience, not just repeating what is in books.

Course fee £45, WGBKA members £35. Second and subsequent attendees booked together £40*. Under 16 with a paying adult £15*. - Price is per head to include lunch, refreshments, and our own booklet "Basic Beekeeping". Those marked * will not receive "Basic Beekeeping", but additional copies will be available on the day at £5.

Enquiries:- Roger Patterson. roger-patterson@btconnect.com 01403 790 637 or 07976 306 492

Booking:- See the website at www.wgbka.org.uk or contact Gordon Allan, Stone House, High Street, Petworth, West Sussex, GU28 0AU. 01798 343 470, petworthgordon@btopenworld.com.

Pulborough Village Hall is off Lower Street. Turn down next to the Oddfellows Arms, right to the bottom and turn right into the car park. If this is full then use the main car park immediately before it. We understand the main car park will be free for hall users

BBKA SPRING CONVENTION 7th to 9th April 2017

Harper Adams University, Newport, Shropshire TF10 8NB

Enquiries: Workshops and Courses – workshopconvenor@bbka.org.uk

Accommodation and meals – hospitality@bbka.org.uk

General – tim.lovett@bbka.org.uk

Tickets on sale via www.bbka.org.uk

BBKA and other Association Members £22 in advance; £25 on the day

Public £28 in advance; £32 on the day

Trade Show only £5 on the day

INTERNATIONAL MEETING of YOUNG BEEKEEPERS

6th to 9th July 2017

Marlborough College

86TH NATIONAL HONEY SHOW SANDOWN PARK

Portsmouth Road, Esher KT10 9AJ

26th 27th and 28th October 2017

For lecture programme, workshop booking and
show schedule go to www.honeyshow.co.uk

Seasonal Bee Inspectors

North London	Brian McCallum	07775 119478	brian.mccallum@apha.gsi.gov.uk
South London	Mark Patterson	07900 223241	mark.patterson@apha.gsi.gov.uk
Surrey	Hilary Hayward	07900 167409	hilary.hayward@apha.gsi.gov.uk
North Kent	Kay Wreford	07775 119483	kay.wreford@apha.gsi.gov.uk
East Sussex and South Kent	Michael Cooper	07775 119451	michael.cooper@apha.gsi.gov.uk
West Sussex and East Sussex	Diane Steele	07775 119452	diane.steele@apha.gsi.gov.uk

DON'T FORGET to advise your Branch Secretary and the County Membership Secretary of any change to your e-mail address, postal address or telephone numbers.

If you have any branch information or articles you would like included in the Newsletter, please e-mail newsletter@kbka.org.uk