



**December 2018**

## **Last Month**

Last month we had the South Devon Beekeeper's Convention on 4<sup>th</sup> November. There was a great line-up of speakers this year, including Keith Delaplane from the USA. Traders coming from outside the county include Northern Bee Books from Yorkshire, Hive Originals (cosmetic products) and Jacob Trood (artwork and cards) from Somerset and Sherriff (bee suits) and Bee Hive Supplies (beekeeping equipment) from Cornwall. We also had our branch AGM at Moreleigh Village Hall on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> November. After the meeting, we had afternoon tea before Ken Basterfield gave his talk on 'Processing Beeswax'. Graham Brown was lucky enough to win the raffle and come home with a smoker.

Finally, we had our branch social and quiz at the Church Room, St Petroc Church, South Brent on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November. Jeremy and Ena provided hot toddies and everyone brought some food along to share. Quiz master Rachel West provided the questions and that man Graham Brown came out a winner again.



Our thanks go to everyone involved in all of the above events so as to make them a success.

## This Month

**Devon Beekeepers Day:** 10.00am on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December at The Future Inn, Plymouth International Business Park, PL6 5ZD.

Following the business of the AGM which is usually over quite quickly, John De Carteret from Jersey Beekeepers will be describing their campaign to deal with the Asian hornet, and after lunch Dr Claire Bethune, Consultant Immunologist at Derriford Hospital, will be giving a talk on *Reactions to Bee Stings*. The full programme and information about parking and lunch is on the Devon Beekeepers' website here:

<https://www.devonbeekeepers.org.uk/devon-beekeepers-day-and-agm/>

**Oxalic Acid Treatment Demonstration:** 1.30 pm on Saturday 29 December 2018 at the branch apiary, Old School Farm, Dartington, TQ9 6EB (weather permitting).

## Coming Up

**Honey Show:** 9.00am on Saturday 5 January, Totnes Methodist Church, 40-42 Fore Street, Totnes, TQ9 5HW

We are joining with Torbay Beekeepers and Newton Abbot Beekeepers to hold a South Devon Honey Show in Totnes. To help us to promote beekeeping to the public, we have hired the Methodist Church in Totnes Fore Street from 9 am until 4 pm. As well as the Honey Show itself, we plan to sell honey, cream and scones with tea and coffee to members of the public who pop in, as well as tempt them to buy jars of honey and other products of the hive to take away. It should be a great opportunity to show everyone what a great pastime beekeeping is, and perhaps encourage some to enrol on our Beginners Course.

We need your support to make this a success. There will be classes for honey and wax of course, but also cookery classes and a craft class and a photography class so beginner beekeepers and non-beekeepers can take part. We are hoping that every member will feel they can enter something. Staging will take place between 9 am and 10 am after which the Church will be open to the public. Jack Mummery has agreed to be our Judge and we are hopeful that he will agree to give a running commentary as he goes around the exhibits.

There's no entry fee (and no prize money but we do have certificates and trophies to give out).

Take a look at the classes below, and start planning your entries now! Look out your best honey, etc. If you have lots to choose from, consider putting some on the sales stand. We sell honey at £5.50 per 1lb jar, and the Branch takes 10% (55p) of that. We can also sell other sizes of honey, and wax blocks and candles on your behalf.

Honey Show Classes:

1. Honey: Two 1lb (454g) matching jars of light honey
2. Honey: Two 1lb (454g) matching jars of medium or dark honey
3. Honey: Two 1lb (454g) matching jars of naturally granulated honey

4. Novice\* Honey: One 1 lb (454g) jar of honey
5. Honey: Two containers of cut comb honey of minimum gross weight 6 oz (175g)
6. Honey: One shallow comb of honey for extraction (displayed in a bee-proof case)
7. Honey Label: Two jars of the same honey, with home-produced label for sale
8. Wax: One cake of beeswax, minimum weight 8oz (225g)
9. Wax: Five matching blocks of beeswax, each with a minimum weight of 25g
10. Candles: A pair of matching beeswax candles made by any method
11. Novice\* Candle: One candle made from beeswax – dipped or moulded. The candle will be lit and so needs to be in a candle holder if required
- ~~12. Mead: One bottle of mead, sweet or dry, in a clear glass bottle~~
13. Craft: One handicraft item with a beekeeping theme, eg handmade greeting card, needlework item, etc
14. Photography: One, or more, coloured or black and white photograph of interest to beekeepers, on photographic paper, not less than postcard size
15. Cookery: Four pieces of flapjack (using recipe provided)
16. Cookery: Honey and orange cake (using recipe provided)
17. Cookery: Honey Fudge (using recipe provided)

\* A novice is someone who has not won a prize at any Honey Show.

A proper schedule with entry form, recipes, etc, will be produced soon (after consultation with Torbay and Newton Abbot Beekeepers).

**Devon Honey Show Presentation:** 10.00am on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> January at Whiddon Down Village Hall, Exeter Road, Whiddon Down, EX20 2QT

Liz Westcott will give a presentation on changes to this year's Devon Honey Show. Everyone is invited to come along. If you plan to attend, Liz has asked that you email her beforehand at [lizwestcott@me.com](mailto:lizwestcott@me.com)

**Beginners Course:** 7.00pm on Thursday 17 January at St Luke's Church, Plymouth Road, Buckfastleigh, TQ11 0DA

We start our Beginner's Course. Classes are fortnightly until April when practical sessions start. If you know of anyone interested, please get them to contact Grant at [bees.westlakedevon@gmail.com](mailto:bees.westlakedevon@gmail.com) in the first instance. Who knows? Perhaps it could be a Christmas present for a budding beekeeper?

**Asian Hornet Network Open Meeting:** 2.30pm on Saturday 19 January at the Church House Inn, Harberton, TQ9 7SF

Note From Jill & Ken Beagley as follows:

Since the Asian Hornet Open Meeting last January in Harberton, there are now seven Asian Hornet Action Teams from beekeeping branches in Devon registered on the AHAT website, as well as AHATs in twenty-one branches in fourteen other counties, mainly in the south of England. As DBKA are planning to bring the branch AHATs officially under the umbrella of D.B.K.A. Simon O'Sullivan, Chair of Okehampton branch and a trustee of DBKA, has been asked by the Chair of DBKA, Tony Lindsell, to organise a meeting in early February 2019, for representatives of branch AHATs or a member of the branch, who is taking responsibility for Asian Hornet matters.

This year, Ken's and my energy has been directed towards a national Asian Hornet awareness, e.g. You Tube follow up films of Martin Hocking and Colin Lodge's AHAT and issues such as getting the BBKA on board, setting up Asian Hornet Awareness Week, chasing incorrect press reports and photos, as well as researching info for Beekeeping magazines - so our attention hasn't been in the setting up an AHAT network in South Hams, but we are very much in support of AHAT and attend steering group meetings, even though we are not taking on committee responsibilities.

However, the extent to which Ken and I can be available to help with any incursion of Asian Hornets, similar to many of us, is limited and fairly local, whereas geographically the TKBKA is vast. For Totnes and Kingsbridge BKA to be involved in next summer's work around Asian Hornet's, there needs to be a much more active network within the branch with willing people throughout the whole area. As you might know, Joe McGuckin is the TKBKA Asian Hornet contact, though currently TKBKA does not have a registered AHAT. So, having discussed it with Joe, we are organising an informal meeting in January of beekeepers from TKBKA, plus friends and others interested in setting up an AHAT, or simply a network, to support the work of the NBU in stopping Asian Hornets from becoming established in our area next year.

The Church House Inn, Harberton, TQ9 7SF, has kindly offered the area at the end near the fire from 2.30pm on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2019, in exchange for a drink or two. The easiest parking for those who are able to walk 100 yards is in the upper car park behind the Parish Hall, TQ9 7SE, leaving the limited parking outside the Inn available for others.

**Please contact us ASAP if you can be there, so that we can see how much interest there is in the TKBKA area for this idea. We look forward to hearing from you.**

Jill and Ken Beagley – [jill@armchairpuppets.co.uk](mailto:jill@armchairpuppets.co.uk)

**Annual Branch Dinner:** Evening of Saturday 16 February 2019 at The Old Inn, Halwell, TQ9 7JA

Details to follow, but please reserve the date.

## Notices

### Apiary Site Available

A six acre site is available in Dartington. The owner is not a beekeeper, but would welcome bees on her land. For details, please contact Judy Holder on [judyholder108@hotmail.com](mailto:judyholder108@hotmail.com)

### Membership Subscriptions

If you wish to renew your membership for 2019, please make sure you have sent in your membership form with payment before the end of December.

#### **Hembury Bee Supplies**

Agents for the main manufacturers and can supply all your beekeeping needs. Contact John Harler, Outer Finches, Hembury Cock Hill, Buckfast, TQ11 0HN. Please phone or email before you visit. Tel: 01364 642517.  
Email: [fire221@btinternet.com](mailto:fire221@btinternet.com)

## 2018 Branch Committee

President: Rod Saffery, 01803 762532, [rodsaffery@gmail.com](mailto:rodsaffery@gmail.com)

Chairman: Graham Brown, 01364 642787, [graham.brown@gmx.us](mailto:graham.brown@gmx.us)

Vice-Chairman: Jeremy Wells, 01364 72180, [jeremy.ena@gmail.com](mailto:jeremy.ena@gmail.com)

Secretary & Trustee: Grant Elliott, 01752 894094, [bees.westlakedevon@gmail.com](mailto:bees.westlakedevon@gmail.com)

Treasurer: John Harler, 01364 642517, [fire221@btinternet.com](mailto:fire221@btinternet.com)

Other members: Annie Hill, Lilah Killock, Kevin Gillard, Tammy Skinner

### Branch Website

<http://beekeepingsouthdevon.uk/>

<http://www.totnesandkingsbridgebeekeepers.com/>

Need help? Ken Basterfield holds the highest UK bee-keeping qualification, the National Diploma in Beekeeping, and if you feel in need of some instant advice, you can telephone him on 01404 815885. Two of our most experienced beekeepers, John Harler in Buckfast (01364 642517) and Jeremy Wells in South Brent (01364 72180), are happy to be contacted at short notice by any member needing practical help and/or advice.



Totnes & Kingsbridge Beekeepers is a branch of Devon Beekeepers Association  
Registered charity no 270675.



Devon Beekeepers' Association (DBKA)

Registered Charity Number 270675

DBKA Membership Renewal 2019

Branch

Title (Mr/Mrs etc)  First Name(s)  Surname

Address

Please complete a separate form for each member

Postcode  Telephone

Date of birth (Junior only)

Email address

Membership Category  @

Registered (includes BDI for up to 3 colonies) £37.00 Partner £17.00 Junior £17.00

Associate £14.00 Social £4.50 Honorary (please detail - subscriptions as before)

Voluntary contribution to Branch funds

Voluntary contribution to DBKA President's Fund

Bee Disease Insurance (see below) for total of  colonies

Beekeepers Quarterly: I wish to join the DBKA bulk subscription scheme for 2019 @ £20 per year (4 issues)

BKQ is published March, June, September and December. If after 1 May, BKQ subscription is £15 (3 issues): if after 1 August £10 (2 issues) Total amount due

District/Parish where bees are kept

Gift Aid Declaration: DBKA can claim 25p in Gift Aid for every pound from your membership subscriptions and donations. Please circle YES or NO in the box to the right to indicate if you would like DBKA to treat all membership subscriptions and donations as Gift Aid donations. I confirm I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations, it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

YES  
NO

DBKA will only contact you from time to time with newsletters and news updates relevant to DBKA at large, and to notify you of DBKA, BBKA, and other beekeeping associations' related events. We will take all reasonable steps to keep your details safe and we will not pass your details on to any other organisation without your explicit consent. The only exceptions to that will be to the associations/agencies required as part of your membership process, and names and addresses only to the DBKA Beekeeping Magazine printing company. Your data is only kept by us while you remain a DBKA member and for a period of one month after your membership lapses to provide you with a chance to renew your existing membership. We may, however, retain data for differing periods of time for different purposes as required by statute or best practices. All DBKA members are free to update their details stored with us at any time through your Branch Membership Secretary. You have the right to request:

- Your contact details, other than your name, are not published in the DBKA On-line Member Directory
- Your contact details are not passed to the NBU

Such requests should be made directly to your Branch Membership Secretary.

Signed  Date

SEND YOUR FORM WITH PAYMENT TO: Grant Elliott, Totnes & Kingsbridge Beekeepers, Rose Cottage, Westlake, Ermington, Ivybridge, PL21 9JT

For payment by bank transfer\* use Account Name: Totnes Beekeeping Association

Cheques should be made payable to: Totnes & Kingsbridge Beekeepers

Sort Code: 30-98-69 Account No: 00238518

**\* IMPORTANT: If paying by bank transfer, email your form to [bees.westlakedevon@gmail.com](mailto:bees.westlakedevon@gmail.com) stating that you have paid electronically.**

Registered Member BDI

Your total number of hives	1-3	4-5	6-10	11-15	16-20	21-25	26-30	31-35	36-39
Additional Cost	Nil	£2.00	£5.25	£7.75	£9.50	£11.10	£13.60	£16.10	£18.10

(Example - if you have 4 hives in total, the first 3 are covered in the subscription. You need to pay £2.00.)

Partner/Junior Member BDI

Your total number of hives	1-3	4-5	6-10	11-15	16-20	21-25	26-30	31-35	36-39
Cost	£2.00	£4.00	£7.25	£9.75	£11.50	£13.10	£15.60	£18.10	£20.10