



**February 2018**

**Last month**

**Oxalic Acid Demo:**

On 6<sup>th</sup> January Kevin gave our bees at Dartington apiary their oxalic acid treatment for the New Year. Oxalic acid was also provided to branch members for them to take home and use on their own bees.

**South Devon Beekeepers Honey Show:**

On 9<sup>th</sup> January we held the South Devon Honey Show at St Paul's Church, Preston, Paignton. The show was a joint venture between Torbay, Newton Abbot and Totnes & Kingsbridge branches. Lilah Killock won trophies for our branch, while Liz Westcott won the Devon Green Ribbon for overall best in show.

**Beeswax Candles & Glass Moulds:**

On 16<sup>th</sup> January Will Steynor gave a candle making workshop at South Brent Village Hall. Will demonstrated how to make rolled candles, latex mould candles and glass mould candles. Overall, we made fork handles. Will kindly offered the candles to the branch and we shall use these for our display at the Totnes Show later in the year.



Grant - Receiving cup for Lilah



Liz – Best in Show



Will – Pouring wax for fork handles

## Asian Hornet Open Meeting:

On 20<sup>th</sup> January we hosted an Open Meeting on the Asian Hornet at Harberton Parish Hall. A big thanks to Jill Beagley for taking this event under her wing and organizing everything. Martyn Hocking, who found an Asian Hornet in Woolacombe, North Devon last year was the main speaker. For those who could not make this event, you can find his talk on You Tube.

The You Tube link is:

[https://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=Martyn+Hocking](https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=Martyn+Hocking)

## This month

**Beekeeping Beginners Course:** 7.00pm on Thursday 15 February at St Luke's Church, Plymouth Road, Buckfastleigh TQ11 0DA.

**Holsworthy Spring Convention:** 10.00am – 4.30pm on Saturday 24 February at Memorial Hall, Holsworthy, EX22 6DJ. Speakers include:

Professor Steve Martin, University of Salford – 'Exotic Travels of a Bee Researcher'  
Steve Alton, Flowscapes Ltd & Dr Karin Alton, University of Sussex  
– 'Forage Nutrition'

Roger Patterson, BIBBA – 'Honey Bees in the Wild – What we learn from them'

Further details on website link:

[http://www.holsworthybeekeepers.org.uk/spring\\_convention\\_2018.shtml](http://www.holsworthybeekeepers.org.uk/spring_convention_2018.shtml)

**Beekeepers' Annual Dinner:** 7.30pm on Saturday 24 February at Wrangaton Golf Club, Wrangaton, South Brent, TQ10 9HJ. Menu and booking form are enclosed. Please return booking form and payment to Jeremy by 14<sup>th</sup> February.

## Coming Up

**Devon Beekeepers' Day:** 10.00am on Saturday 3 March at the Bridge Suite, ISCA Centre, Summer Lane, Whipton, Exeter, EX4 8NT. Guest speaker will be John De Carteret, Vice President of Jersey Beekeepers' Association, who will be talking on 'Living with the Asian Hornet'. Martyn Hocking will also be there.

Further details on website link:

<http://www.devonbeekeepers.org.uk/>

## Notices

### Candle Maker Wanted

Ashprington WI would like somebody to come and run a candle making workshop for them. If you are interested and are able to help, please contact Cathy Churchcourt  
[cathychurchcourt@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cathychurchcourt@hotmail.co.uk)

### Community Beekeeping at Buckfast Abbey

Buckfast Abbey will be continuing their beekeeping workshops, starting in March 2018. We will provide details of the events nearer the time. Full details can be found on the website [www.buckfast.org.uk](http://www.buckfast.org.uk) However, if you would have any questions then, please contact Clare Densley direct on [cdensley@buckfast.org.uk](mailto:cdensley@buckfast.org.uk) or Mob: 07944 504283.

## 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)

## Swarm Collectors

It is that time of year when we need to think about swarm collectors for the coming summer. If you would like to register as a swarm collector on the DBKA website and BBKA website, please let Grant know and email him at [bees.westlakedevon@gmail.com](mailto:bees.westlakedevon@gmail.com)

In order to register, you need to be a full or partner member of Totnes & Kingsbridge Beekeepers and have passed your Basic Assessment. Your personal contact details will also be posted on the DBKA and BBKA websites.

## 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: 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)

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

Other members of the Committee: Annie Hill, John Hart, Lilah Killock, Joe Mc Guckin, Kevin Gillard

## 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.



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