



## November 2018

Don't forget to book your place at the **South Devon Beekeeper's Convention** online *before 31 October for just £15*. The Convention is on Sunday 4 November (doors open 9.15 am for 9.45 am start) at The Ariel Centre, Ashburton Road, Totnes, TQ9 5JX.

We have 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.

*Tickets after 31 October, or on the door, cost £20 each. Pasties (£3) available at lunchtime but must be booked before 31 October. Teas and coffees available all day. Full details, and to book, see [www.devonbeekeepers.org.uk](http://www.devonbeekeepers.org.uk).*

Also coming up this month:

**Branch AGM followed by talk by Ken Basterfield:** 2.30 pm on Sunday 18 November at Halwell & Moreleigh Village Hall, Moreleigh Cross, Moreleigh, Totnes, TQ9 7JQ.

We've chosen Moreleigh for our venue this year because it is bang in the middle of the three main towns of our area: Totnes, Kingsbridge and Dartmouth, and hopefully it will prove to be convenient for the majority of our members. There's plenty of parking. Come along and spend the afternoon with your fellow beekeepers. Bring and share something for a Sunday Afternoon Tea. We are going to hold a raffle with a grand prize of a smoker. Donations of other prizes gratefully received.

The Agenda, details of Ken's talk and a copy of last year's Minutes are attached with this newsletter. If you have anything you would like to see added to the Agenda, please let Grant know.

We are always looking for new Committee members, but please don't feel you will be pressured into anything if you come along. However, if you have some time to spare and would like to contribute something to the running of the Branch, do please make yourself known. In particular, we are hoping to find someone to take on this newsletter to relieve Grant of one of his many roles.

**Branch Social and Quiz:** 7.00 pm for 7.30 pm start on Saturday 24 November at the Church Room, St Petroc Church, 12 Wellington Square, South Brent TQ10 9AG. Please

bring along a plate of food to share. (Mince pies especially appreciated.) Jeremy will be providing hot toddies, one cider-based and one apple-juice based. If you'd prefer something else to drink, please bring it along. Quizmaster Rachel West will be providing the questions, not all of which will be about bees, so non-beekeepers are most welcome to join in. (Anyone wearing a woolly reindeer jumper will receive bonus points.)

*In December:*

**Devon Beekeepers' Day & AGM:** 10 am on Saturday 15 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*. (Those of us who've heard Dr Claire talk before can recommend her to beekeepers and non-beekeepers. She is great at explaining things in a fun and informative way.) The full programme and information about parking and lunch is on the Devon Beekeepers' website.

Totnes & Kingsbridge Beekeepers are a branch of Devon Beekeepers Association - DBKA, our parent organisation, is a registered charity and it is through DBKA that we as beekeepers are linked to BBKA. We send a representative, known as a Branch Trustee to DBKA Executive Council meetings, and so influence decisions that affect beekeepers throughout Devon, as well as instructing Devon's Chairman how to vote at BBKA Annual Delegate Meetings. The Devon Beekeepers AGM is an opportunity for branch members to put questions directly to DBKA officers.

The Branch have been asked to put on a display showcasing what we do. Lilah has offered to organise this. If you'd like to help her, she'd be pleased to hear from you. This will be a good opportunity to see what the other ten branches in the county get up to, and get some ideas!

*And, in January, an exciting development:*

### **Honey Show: Saturday 5 January, Totnes Methodist Church**

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).

#### **Beginners Course**

Thursday 17 January, 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 in the first instance. Who knows? Perhaps it could be a Christmas present for a budding beekeeper?

#### **Improvers Course**

Some members who've done the Beginners Course and want to revise the theory perhaps with the intention of taking the BBKA Basic Assessment in Summer 2019, are keen to get together with others for mutual support, possibly guided along the way by more experienced members of the Branch. We are planning to discuss this at the Branch AGM with a view to getting the ball rolling in January.

#### **Membership Renewals**

Yes, it's that time of year. Membership for 2019 is due by 31 December, and it greatly helps if subs are paid earlier. A renewal membership form (for existing members) is at the end of this newsletter. Why not print it off, fill it in, and bring it with your cheque or cash to one of our events coming up?

## Apiary Site Available

Foresight Group operate a large number of solar farms throughout the UK, which they also offer as apiary sites. They have a solar farm next to The Sportsman's Arms at Hemborough Post on the way to Dartmouth which they would like to offer to a beekeeper. For further details, please contact James Jenkinson at Foresight Group, Email: [jjenkinson@foresightgroup.eu](mailto:jjenkinson@foresightgroup.eu) or Tel: 0203 76944.

### 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, John Hart, Lilah Killock, Joe McGuckin, 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 **Totnes & Kingsbridge Beekeepers**

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 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