|  |
| --- |
| logoSURREY BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATIONWEYBRIDGE DIVISIONNEWSLETTER: June 2014 <http://www.pyrford.com/weybridgebees> |

**Teaching Apiary to move...........**

**In view of the close proximity of the teaching apiary to the newly created football pitch at Burhill School, the committee have decided to move the Teaching Apiary to another site. Negotiations are in hand with Brooklands College in Weybridge and we need someone to take on the role of Apiary Manager. It is envisaged that the move will take place at the end of the season and certainly after the current practical course has been completed.**

**Responsibilities will include the day to day management of the colonies (four at the present time); acquisition and maintenance of all the necessary equipment and other items needed to run the practical sessions and any other activities, eg Basic Assessments; and to enlist volunteers to undertake specific tasks.**

**If you are interested in pursuing this opportunity please contact the secretary, Anne Miller, or myself for a more detailed list of the tasks involved.**

**Sandra Rickwood, Teaching Apiary Manager**

***Editorial***

I hope that you will pay close attention to the notice above since it could be the beginning of a major development for our Weybridge Division. For a number of years, some of us have felt the desirability of having permanent premises for our meetings, where members could gather on a regular basis, as is the case with most clubs of any type of activity. For a number of reasons, not least the cost and manning (personing?) of such a centre, this has seemed to be an unrealistic idea – although other Surrey Divisions have managed to achieve it. For the last five years our Division has run courses for the training of new beekeepers. One result of this has been to triple our membership. Due largely to the fact that we have no ‘home’, many of the new members tend to be ‘lost’ to us by migrating to assist in centres which have permanent meeting places or simply ‘disappearing’ to their respective back gardens with their bees and we rarely see them again. The recently formed Buzz Groups have played an important part in keeping many together, but some areas and individuals are not covered. There is no doubt among those involved, and not least among the 100 or so students who have attended the courses that these have been very successful. By ‘successful’ we mean that many new beekeepers have been produced, some of whom show exceptional promise in the craft. Even those who feel that they do not currently have the time to be active beekeepers say that they hope to have bees in the future. This generated interest must be beneficial to beekeeping and the wider environment.

The possibility of moving the teaching apiary to Brooklands College could, in time, lead to a permanent ‘home’ for us, although this has not been discussed with the Brooklands management. It does, however, add to the importance of establishing our Teaching Apiary there, and could well lead to a relationship that could be developed to the benefit of the College and our Division. So the new manager may be influential in helping to initiate many worthwhile things.

We wonder if, because courses, meetings and the general business of the Division runs well, members assume everything is covered and that there are enough people already involved, but, in practice, a very few people do it all. I don’t know about Kitchener and the World War I slogan attributed to him, but Your beekeeping group needs you!

Please contact Anne, Sandra or any other Committee Member if you are even vaguely interested in managing the Apiary (which Sandra has done successfully for 5 years), or being part of a team to do this – the more people the better.

**Nosema Clinic - Wednesday, 4th June - a reminder**

The Nosema clinic will run from 7:30 - 9:30pm,  at St Peter’s Church Hall, 1 Burwood Road,  Hersham KT12 4AA.

Please bring a sample of at least 30 bees per hive to test for this disease.  Detailed instructions on collecting a correct sample of bees were included in the May newsletter.  Everyone is welcome to come along and meet us for tea and cake and to find out what it is all about, even if you have no bees to bring this time.

Anne Miller

**Garden Meeting, Saturday, 7th June**

David Brassington and Jane Weisz have kindly agreed to host the June garden meeting, which will start at 2.30pm. The address is Sheerwater Mews, Sheerwater Road, Woodham, KT15 3QL. The house is down a narrow gravel drive on the SW side of Sheerwater Road almost opposite Silver Birch Close. The drive is next to Sheerwater House Care Home, which has a big blue sign.

Contributions for sharing at tea time would be appreciated. Please let Jane and David know if you will be attending by emailing [janeanddavid@ntlworld.com](mailto:janeanddavid@ntlworld.com).

Please park in the side roads nearby; do ask for further directions if necessary. If you would like to come to the meeting, but have no veil of your own (yet) contact Marion Cooper, who will bring one for you.

David and Jane will have several colonies for us to see – details on the day.

Sue Lawes

**Report of garden meeting on 11th May 2014 at Michael Main's house in Weybridge**

The meeting began on one of those afternoons of sun and cloud and blustery wind, when it could rain at any moment but never quite does. A very popular event, with a large contingent which totalled 32 by the appointed start time - cars were parked in every available corner. There were a good number of new beekeepers, noticeable by their brand new beesuits. Actually, Michael was also sporting a new whiter-than-white suit which had cost him £35 from Thorne’s at the Honey Show, and not at all the £133 paid for a similar one worn by a newcomer.

Michael told us that his bees are very gentle and that he normally doesn't use smoke - though this time, with many visitors, he would. Michael currently has seven colonies, but as he is a major swarm collector for the association that tends to change often, and he generally aims for four. Michael split us into two groups, going to hives in different parts of the garden. He then delegated the demonstrations to Geoff Cooper and Rob Chisholm, pleading a bad back.

The demonstrations concentrated on checking for diseases such as EFB and AFB, but there were many diversions on the way to show new people queens, brood, etc, and even a couple of wax moth larvae. Thankfully neither of the hives contained any bad news on disease.

The bees around Geoff's area seemed to like sticking to people and everyone in that group was covered -looking like they were each setting up their own personal colony. Luckily the bees lost interest as we moved away. Geoff's hive was full of queen cells but the queen herself was only found after a second examination of the 22 frames in the brood nest of the hive, which just goes to prove that even the most experienced have problems in this area. Over in Rob's corner the bees zoomed around ignoring us, and the queen was found with ease.

With the checks done, Rob demonstrated a shook swarm on another colony - though most of the actual work was done by a teenage chap (Aidan – one of the current year’s bee course students), who was ‘volunteered’ by his mother. Good practice for the future.

Tea and cakes followed - the cakes in huge variety, causing us to eat rather more than we probably should. Whilst all the sampling was happening Rob demonstrated some frame cleaning techniques which enable some of his frames to be 40 years old. Never under-estimate the value of the humble steam wallpaper stripper. (*See Bernard’s article on p. 7.)*

Personally I ended the afternoon with too much cake and a discussion with a Buzz Group colleague on how to get her out of the computing stone age. But that's another world entirely - just another useful by-product of our 'help each other' Buzz Group.

Bernhard Newnham

**Painshill Park Bee Fest, Sunday, 20th July, 11am – 4pm**

As most of you know, Geoff and I have, for many years, run a Bee Event during the summer at Painshill Park, where we keep most of our colonies. In response to our request for assistance, Weybridge members have always been extremely helpful, so that there are beekeepers ready to demonstrate and speak with the visitors at all times. Apparently this event is one of the best attended of any at Painshill, so the management there have been discussing with us how it could be made into an even bigger visitor attraction, incorporating sales. With this in mind, they contacted Sandra, as Surrey BKA Secretary, and she has approached individuals and the committees of other Surrey Divisions to see if they would like to participate. This, of course, also applies to Weybridge members, so if you have honey or other bee-related wares to sell, here’s an opportunity – that’s assuming that any legal requirements for these sales are in place. We do not know what the final response from the other Divisions will be, but we do know that we will still need help from our own members for the part of the display and the activities that we shall continue to run. We are unable to give details at this stage, but it would be most helpful if you would let us know if you would like to be involved for at least some of the day. We look forward to welcoming past and new helpers!

 Thank you, Marion C.

Copied below, for your information, is what Sandra has sent to the other Surrey Divisions:

**Honey Bee Festival – Sunday 20th July 2014**

Surrey Beekeepers Association have been invited to join Painshill Park in a Honey Bee Festival. This is an opportunity for all divisions to showcase their activities, sell their produce and talk ‘bees’ all day. The event will take place from 11am to 4pm. (Set up from 9am)

Do come along and meet up with beekeepers and the public – you may even have time to enjoy a walk around the splendid gardens created by the Hon. Charles Hamilton in the 18th century. (£7.70 Entry, under 5s free) See their website for more details <http://www.painshill.co.uk/honey-bee-festival>.

We hope to see you there. There is no entry fee to the Festival.

Sandra Rickwood

**A message from the National Bee Unit concerning high varroa levels**

*I would refer you to the following Varroa warning sent to all on BeeBase by the Fera National Bee Unit:*

Many of our Bee Inspectors have reported a high population of *Varroa* mites in colonies across England and Wales. We believe these high levels are largely due to many colonies continually rearing brood throughout the mild winter. Continuous brood rearing dramatically reduces the efficacy of winter *Varroa* treatments such as oxalic acid, which do not kill mites sealed in brood cells.  We urge beekeepers to monitor colonies and check either the natural mite drop from a sticky insert/open mesh floor or by uncapping drone brood. From May to August, a natural mite drop should be monitored over a week. The number of mites then counted over this week should be multiplied by 30 to give you a rough population of *Varroa* in your colonies. A figure of 1000 mites or more is considered to be a high infestation. If uncapping drone brood, then only 5 *Varroa* mites out of 100 uncapped pupae need to be found to be considered a high infestation.  Should you discover that your colonies have a high amount of *Varroa* then a range of options are available from biotechnical methods such as drone brood removal, to authorised varroacides. NB Varroacides used will be weather and temperature dependant. If you have supers on your colonies then thymol treatments should not be used due to tainting of the honey. More information is available in our

leaflet ‘*Managing Varroa*’, from our website:

<https://secure.fera.defra.gov.uk/beebase/index.cfm?pageid=167> or alternatively, a hard copy can be obtained by phoning the NBU office 01904 462510.

*Bob Holah (Epsom) writes:*This is an appropriate time to remind you that the shop at the Epsom BKA clubhouse still has stocks of the varroa treatment MAQS which is being sold to ALL Surrey Members for just £5.40 per treatment which is very competitive. Can I ask that you send this offer on to your club members with a reminder that MAQS may be used with honey supers in place. The shop is open on Saturdays from 3pm to 5pm, questions or orders may be sent in advance to [sales@epsombeekeepers.co.uk](mailto:sales@epsombeekeepers.co.uk).

*Some of our own members have reported unexpectedly high varroa levels in recent days, while others are reporting low levels. I feel that we need to be especially vigilant with the monitoring and perhaps treatment of our colonies at this time. – Ed.*

**Surrey County Show: Prizewinners from Weybridge**

**Geoff Cooper:** 1st, Light Honey; 1st, Medium Gift Honey; 2nd, Crystallised Gift Honey;

2nd, Frame of Honey Comb; 4th, Benchworthy

**Andrew Halstead:** 3rd, Medium Gift Honey; 3rd Crystallised Gift Honey; 4th Crystallised Honey

**Martin Major:** 1st, Photo; 2nd, Medium Gift Honey; 2nd, Benchworthy; 4th, Light Honey;

4th, Novice

There was a record number of entries this year – over 150. The complete list of results and Martin’s prizewinning photo are attached.

**Beekeeping clothing**

I am just starting to sell a range of Beekeeping clothing, full suits and jackets. Full details and a web site link will be available for next month's newsletter but if you can't wait that long please contact me direct at [martin@tectoday.com](mailto:martin@tectoday.com) or by phone 07973 653575.  The clothing comes with a free holdall to store it and keep it clean and a free peaked cap that can be worn under the veil to keep the netting away from your face.  Additionally 10% of the value of sales to Weybridge members will be donated to the Weybridge Division.  I will have some samples available at the Nosema clinic on Wednesday 4th June if you would like to see the clothing.   Martin Major

**Offer of assistance with beekeeping in Addlestone area**

I would be very happy to assist anyone needing a hand with their bees in the Addlestone area. I am retired. I do not have any bees yet, but am currently part way through a hands-on course.

Thanks, Chris Burnett: chrismburnett@hotmail.com

**BeeCraft's monthly Hangouts/Webinars - a new information service**

Are you aware of BeeCraft's monthly Hangouts/Webinars where you can view, ask questions or pass comment through our website?  We have now run three of these. They last for around 45 minutes. Our second one discussed how we aim to prevent swarms and the latest, on 29th May, was taking a look at diseases. Everyone can watch and interact live through our website or, as the sessions are recorded, view it later, also through our website at [http://www.bee-craft.com](http://www.bee-craft.com/).

The next one is scheduled for Thursday 26th June at 8.00pm, so put that date in your diaries now!

These Hangouts are international with questions and comments from New Zealand, USA, Canada and elsewhere - all very interesting given the different seasons being experienced and sometimes different tips or approaches to the same issue.

Questions can be sent via email to the 'panel' which comprises members of the BeeCraft team at varying stages in their beekeeping 'careers', using different hives and methods, so a true cross section of opinions as you would expect from Beekeepers!  **Questions should be sent as soon as possible via the link below** to be reasonably sure they can be aired, although they can be sent during the Hangout.

We are all new to this, so it's fun as well as informative and if being watched by a group, at an association meeting perhaps in the future, will undoubtedly stimulate discussion and further explanation!  Nearly as good as having a guest speaker visit which some of you, I know, struggle to get.

We would welcome feedback as this is work in progress and some ideas for future topics. Just click on this link, then click again to go direct to the Hangout page [http://www.bee-craft.com/beekeeping/hangouts](http://www.bee-craft.com/beekeeping/hangouts/)/

Wendy, Deputy Marketing Manager, BeeCraft Limited, 07908 860 826 email:  [wendy@bee-craft.com](mailto:wendy@bee-craft.com)

**Local evidence that feral colonies are still with us, despite claims to the contrary**

It has often been sugggested that feral colonies have almost disappeared as a result of varroa. However, it is interesting that, in the last 3 weeks, I have been called out to 22 ‘swarms’ of honey bees. Of these 8 were feral colonies in buildings that had been in situ for several years but were particularly active this April. In addition a further 5 were real swarms that had come out of identified feral colonies in trees, again, that had been in situ for at least two years. So clearly the feral populations have survived this winter in a very strong condition. I hope all our members’ bees have survived the winter as well. Michael Main

**Herbicides and bees**

In the May 2014 newsletter, Peter Dawson noted that chemicals added to herbicides to improve their performance could be harmful to bees by dissolving waxes on the bees' body surface.  This would make bees more liable to dehydration and might allow pesticides to enter the bees' bodies more readily.  Herbicides have another and more direct adverse effect on bees and other insects by destroying crop weeds.  Farmers these days are able to grow most crops weed-free thanks to modern herbicides.  We all benefit from the increased yields this produces but crops such as cereals, sugar beet and brassicas have nothing for bees and other insects that would formerly have gathered nectar/pollen from the flowers of weeds, or fed on the foliage of those plants.  This aspect of the effect that crop protection chemicals have on biodiversity is often overlooked by environmental pressure groups, whose attention is focused on insecticides.  As part of the initiative to help pollinating insects, farmers are now being encouraged to leave unsprayed strips around field margins, or to sow the margins with a wild flower seed mixture.

                                                                                                                                                  Andrew Halstead

**Report on the recent Reigate Beekeepers’ Auction**

On Saturday 3rd May I attended the Reigate Beekeepers’ Auction.  We were lucky with the weather as it turned into a gorgeous spring day, not too hot and not too cold.  In total there were some 250 lots on sale covering WBC and National equipment along with extracting equipment and several lots of live bees.  As ever in auctions it is easy to get carried away with bidding and there were certainly a few instances of this where I saw retail and even higher than retail prices being paid.  However, overall the prices obtained were around 50% of new prices with some very good deals on offer to those that waited and knew what they really wanted.  I personally picked up two as good as new supers for £18, three mesh floors for just over £20 and my real steal of another super with a section box, sections and three hanging sections for £3 along with other equipment, some of which needs a little repair and refurbishment.  The several lots of bees, nucs and full hives sold for very reasonable prices and perhaps the biggest discount of the day was a 9-frame electric extractor that went for just £201.  Paynes Bee Farms also had a stall, which was useful to get a catalogue from to check prices as you bid and circa 50 – 70 people were there at different times of the day,  10% of the sale price was charged by Reigate for running the auction.  Viewing started at 11am and the auction at 12.30, finishing at just before 4pm.  Congratulations to Reigate Beekeepers on an excellent event, and I would add that maybe Weybridge or Weybridge/Guildford could also run something similar.

David Parker

**MAQS for varroa control**

*Below are 2 responses to my appeal for information from members who have tried these strips. My thanks to Linda Pakuls and Anne Miller, both of whom say, at the end of their entries, that they woud like to hear from others who have used this product. More please! –Ed.*

First report:

As ever, managing colonies is never straightforward and every year there is another round of learning. So it is again this year.

I treated 3 of my 4 hives in mid-September. The 4th one was a nucleus created from an a colony preparing to swarm in August. It was too small to apply the MAQS treatment and there is no guidance on using MAQS in smaller quantities so I did not treat the nuc. I also treated 2 further hives in my out apiary belonging to a fellow beekeeper.

Based on all the discussions, there are 2 questions to answer:

*1. Are MAQS an effective Varroa treatment?*

*2. Are there impacts on the bees, especially the queen?*

To the first question then: there is no doubt that this is a very effective varroa treatment. All the hives treated had virtually zero varroa drop until April. Even now they have very low varroa counts: between 1 and 2 per day. The treatment is extremely easy to apply to the hive and remains there for only 1 week. It  kills the varroa mites even in sealed brood and can be used before honey extraction - there is reportedly no effect on the honey harvest. I can't support that because I applied MAQS after I took off my meagre harvest last year (after the wasps took most of it). I felt very smug receiving the Defra warning today, though, on high varroa counts being experienced after the mild winter. *continued on next page*

The second question is more interesting. All the colonies came through the winter and I was very pleased with this. Even the small untreated nuc survived the winter, albeit with very few bees. One hive in a second out apiary was in disarray and I suspected that the colony swarmed very late - after I carried out the last inspection - and failed to produce a viable queen. The old queen had seen 3 seasons, so I was expecting the colony to supercede her. So I introduced the queen from the over-wintered nuc. I now know that a virgin queen remained in the colony and so I lost my lovely new queen and I killed the virgin queen! I am just now awaiting to see if I have farmed a viable queen.

One hive in the out apiary was significantly weaker than the others - despite being very strong all last year. There was brood in first inspection, but it wasn't building up and it was clear that the queen had been replaced from last year ( a good thing - that queen was vicious and 2 seasons old). Then the queen stopped laying (I watched and waited several weeks). Another queen under the welly and another queen-growing experiment underway.

This means that of the 4 queens that I went into the winter with, only 1 remained into April. That colony already has 3 honey supers, is super strong and I artificially swarmed them last weekend - a useful opportunity to place queen cells in my 2 queenless colonies. So from the 3 colonies and a nuc I now have 4 colonies and a nuc (from the strong hive with lots of queen cells).

I am not entirely convinced that the queens were damaged from MAQS. The 2 of mine that were replaced by the bees were 2 and 3 seasons old.

The other 2 hives in the out-apiary both came through the winter, but then in April one failed. I am not sure why but there are no bees in the hive. The other one is building up very well and has 2 honey supers on.

So what conclusions can be drawn and what learning have I taken?

1. Don’t add a perfectly good queen to a colony before checking for a virgin :-)

2. Apply the MAQ strips earlier than September. This year I will apply them in early August. Then if there is queen damage it gives the bees the opportunity to create a new queen and have her mated properly.

3. Use half the strip when the colony is not at full strength. I will experiment to see if this is as effective on a smaller colony as the full application. I can always re-treat in May if necessary.

I will definitely use MAQS treatment again this year. I'll be interested to hear more experienced beekeepers’ responses to this.

Linda Pakuls

Second report:

Having a high varroa count at the beginning of the year, I read up on MAQ strips and decided to use them.

In March I treated 2 hives with one strip each (half the recommended dose).  I chose to do this, because the colonies were not that large. The bees were on a brood, and I added an empty super to give them room.  The treatment went well, the bees showed no sign of distress.  Both queens slowed down laying for a week, but built up quickly afterwards and subsequent varroa counts have been negligible.

In May, I treated a 3rd hive with one strip (again with an extra super).  Within 24  hours, I had a huge pile of dead bees on the ground in front of the hive.  I immediately removed the MAQ strip. The queen was fine and has built up laying. Again the varroa count is now low. All hives are similar in size and have 2013 queens.

The only difference in treatment that I can think of was the higher air temperature at the time. Has anyone else noticed if the bees seem to tolerate the application at lower temperatures?  I would be very interested in hearing others’ experiences of MAQS.

Anne Miller

**Photographs**

Amazing pictures of honey hunting in Nepal can be seen here:

<http://www.huhmagazine.co.uk/6738/photographs-of-honey-hunting-in-nepal>

*Thanks to Anne Miller for sending this.-Ed.*

**Bees for sale**

I have 3 nucleus colonies for sale, each with a laying, 2014 queen. They are on 5 full frames, 2 of stores and the others with brood in all stages, from the provided queen. An inspector checked the original hive last year.

I bought my bees from Alastair Welch last year. The bees are very kind, and would be perfect for beginners. I should like to sell the bees for £130. I would prefer to have the nucleus box back but would sell it for £30.

I think it is better if the bees are inspected by the buyer, therefore picked up. I live in Woking.

Lucile Girard, girard.lucile@gmail.com

**How to build a basic - very basic - steam wax extractor**

I must admit that my attitude up to now has been "life's too short to recycle frames". (*a box of new frames costs nearly £14 although seconds are significantly less – Ed.).* All I've been doing in the past is just cut out the wax and chuck the frame in the bin. Also, having seen the price that Thorne’s want for steam extractors - well! But Rob Chisholm's demo at the last garden meeting made me wonder if I could make an extractor on the really cheap. At the time it was more of an intellectual exercise than anything else, but now I've done it......

The first thing you need, and the most expensive, is a steam wallpaper stripper.  These come for £25.00 or so from ebay, and have other uses, such as cleaning the curtains (apparently) - so you haven't just bought a beekeeping tool.  We have one here which I found stashed away deep in the utility room, unused since we last decorated. The next thing is one of those large clear plastic storage boxes. I bought one that was comfortably big enough to fit a number of frames, and rather deeper. Deeper is important. Mine cost £8.99 from that "everything" shop opposite the market in Woking.

Now you need a way of standing or hanging the frames. I had some of that tough 1cm square chicken wire left over from building our chicken coop, but I'm sure there are lots of other ways to do the job. I bent and cut the wire to make a shelf such that a deep frame is just below the lid when standing upright. To do that I made the shelf oversize and bent the wire to give verticals around the sides which set the height above the bottom of the box. Then I put a loop of thick wire through the middle in order to be able to lift it out.

Next you need to make a hole in the lid of the box just big enough to put the steamer tube through. I used one of those flat wood drills to do the job.

Now assemble this wonderfully sophisticated machine. Put a couple of inches of water into the bottom of the box. Stand the frames on the shelf, boil up the water in the steamer with the tube through the hole and wait, probably around 15 minutes or so. All the wax will melt down into the water at the bottom and sit on the surface. One thing to watch out for. IT'S HOT!! Don't open the lid or touch anything while it's working.  The steam coming out of the tube is invisible - don't forget your first year science - you will get scalded if you fiddle around.

When you've seen all the wax melt off, turn off the steamer and wait till it's all cool. Lift the lid - watch out, it might still be hot - and take out the frames. Lift out the shelf, which may be stuck a bit by the wax, and take off the wax from the surface of the water.

That's it.  Now you can store spare frames in the box and your steamer to steam off your wallpaper or clean your curtains next year.

Bernard Newnham

**An invitation to an NGS garden, Sunday 15th June**

Two of our members, Clare and Peter Bevan, are opening their garden to the public, under the National Gardens Scheme, and have invited the Weybridge Beekeepers to visit. Some of us have seen their garden, and it is truly beautiful, so do try and come. The address is Bridge End Cottage, Ockham Lane, Ockham, Surrey GU23 6NR. They sent us this note: ‘You are most welcome to join us. There is no need to respond - just turn up if you would like tea and cake in Surrey, close to RHS Wisley.’

For further details, photographs and directions, click on this link:

<http://www.ngs.org.uk/gardens/find-a-garden/garden.aspx?search=type:advanced-pc:Gu23+6Nr-d:1-dr:5&id=30241>

**Gear wheels in an insect**

A set of mechanical gears has been found in a garden insect, by Gregory Sutton of the University of Bristol, co-author of a study published in the journal *Science.* The insect is called the Issus leafhopper which uses intermeshing cogs to kick its legs at exactly the same time when it jumps into the air. The legs always move within 30 millionths of a second of each other. Professor Malcolm Burrows of Cambridge University said that this is impossible to achieve through a nervous system as neural pulses would take far to long for the extraordinarily tight coordination required. *Extracted from* ***i*** *newspaper, dated 13 September 2013*

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Dates for your diary** | | | | |
| Wednesday | 4th June | 7.30-9.30pm | Nosema Clinic, Hersham | p. 2 |
| Thursday, Friday, Saturday | 5th-7th June | 3 days | South of England Show, Ardingly | See the Show website |
| Saturday | 7th June | 2.30pm | Garden Meeting, David Brassington & Jane Weisz | p. 2 |
| Sunday | 15th June | 10.30-5.00 | National Gardens Scheme, Clare and Peter Bevan | p. 7 |
| Sunday | 13th July | 2.30pm | Apiary Meeting, Garson Farm, Esher, Peter Bowbrick | Details tba |
| Sunday | 20th July | 11.00-4.00 | Painshill Bee Fest, Painshill Park, Cobham | p. 3 |
| Saturday | 16th August | 2.30pm | Garden Meeting, Gil Bray | Details tba |
| Thursday-Saturday | October 30th – November 1st | 3 days | National Honey Show, Weybridge | April p. 6 |
| Saturday | November 15th | 2.30pm | Weybridge Division AGM | Details later |
| Saturday | December 6th |  | SBKA AGM, Reigate | Details later |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| CONTACT DETAILS | |
| Chairman  Andrew Halstead - 01483 489581  email: ahalstead44@btinternet.com | Secretary  Anne Miller- 01932 223824  email: wbks\_secretary@outlook.com |
| Treasurer  Michael Main 01932 849080  email: michael\_main@talktalk.net | Newsletter Editor  Geoff Cooper - 01932 242179  email: coopergm56@btinternet.com |
| Rowtown Apiary Manager  Rob Chisholm - 01483 715779  email: robinchisholm102@btinternet.com | Burhill Allotments Apiary Manager  Jim Joyce - 01932 225435  email: enid.w.joyce@gmail.com |
| Teaching Apiary Manager  Sandra Rickwood - 01932 244326  email: sandrarickwood@btinternet.com | Nosema Clinic  Jim and Enid Joyce - 01932 225435  email: enid.w.joyce@gmail.com |
| Regional Bee Inspector  Julian Parker 07775 119469 | Swarms  Michael Main - 01932 849080 |
| LOCAL BEE ADVISERS | |
| Rob Chisholm - 01483 715779 | Geoff Cooper - 01932 242179 |
| Jim Joyce - 01932 225435 | Stephen Sore - 01784 465323 or 07535 319753 |