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| logoSURREY BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATIONWEYBRIDGE DIVISIONNEWSLETTER: March 2018 [**www.weybridgebeekeepers.weebly.com**](http://www.weybridgebeekeepers.weebly.com/) |

***Editorial***

This month has been described as the most dangerous time for bee colonies from the aspect of their stores. Coming out of winter they will soon (if not now) be starting to raise their new bees for the spring. The immediate effect of this will be a very rapid reduction in their stores with the very real danger of colony starvation. New beekeepers, especially those who have just overwintered their bees for the first time, may not be aware of this serious danger to their colonies. I remember one (presumably experienced) beekeeper talking about his bees on television, casually said that he had lost only 3 of his 18 colonies in the recent winter. No suggestion or reason was given for these losses. If I hear of colony losses in winter I have to ask the question, “Why?” It should never be due to starvation. The dangers at this time are much increased if shortage at the end of winter is followed by a cold and/or wet spring so that no spring forage is available. Things become very serious if shortage of stores is followed by a short period of warm weather which encourages to queen to lay, and is then immediately followed by a further spell of bad weather, confining the bees to the hive and rapidly depleting their stores by feeding all those thousands of new developing bees. We must ensure that our colonies have adequate stores at all times of the year. This can be a fine balance if bad weather continues into April or later, as we don’t want the risk of ‘contaminating’ a sudden crop of honey with sugar that we have just fed (by Murphy’s Law the inspector is bound to choose one of those jars).

I have to say that by feeding the correct amount of winter stores in the autumn for winter, I have never found any risk of shortage until March.

One thing is certain: there are many threats to the health of our bees over which we have little or no control, but there is no need for starvation; this has to be due to the negligence of beekeepers.

**Potential Beekeeping Centre in Pleasant Place, Hersham: Update 13**

The project team and many of the committee have been hard at work this month. During January house to house visits were conducted by WBK members in Pleasant Place:

Visits:

·         65 dwellings were visited by WBK members

·         47 residents of Pleasant Place were spoken to

·         18 leaflets were posted through doors (Houses displaying ‘No callers’ notices, or out on each of two visits

·         A further 9 leaflets were posted through doors of offices and flats with no easy access

Responses:

Several residents expressed very positive support for the project. Some were keen to visit the centre when it is in operation, and others even offered to help with work on the site.

**NO** resident expressed any significant opposition to the proposed project

2 residents were disinterested overall in the project

2 residents highlighted the possible increase in traffic and parking and asked how this might be addressed.

David Parker

**Hersham Residents’ Public Meeting**

After the door to door house visits, a public meeting was held on February 9th at 7.30pm at St Peter’s Church hall (photo below), which is a few minutes walk from Pleasant Place.



Over 50 people attended of whom around 35 were Hersham residents and 5 councillors and one prospective councillor. We were encouraged by the presence of a number of Weybridge Beekeepers.

Feedback from residents was centered on 2 concerns:

1.      The location of the apiary and the bees

2.      Traffic and parking on Pleasant Place

The concern regarding bees was that in the plans the apiary was positioned on the West side, closest to the housing as opposed to it being placed on the East side, which would provide a greater distance between the bees and houses on Pleasant Place.   After considering the options it has now been decided to put the apiary on the East side, next to the field.

In terms of traffic a second traffic monitoring was done and this has been submitted now as part of a pre-planning application – we get this free as a charity.  The result of the pre-planning process could take up to 8 weeks to come through but will provide clear guidance on any further issues we might face as part of the planning process.

Whilst all of this has been going on we have submitted grant applications to the ‘Communities for Tomorrow’ fund and the Postcode Lottery.  Each of these is worth around £20k and are in a two-stage process.  Once we have feedback from pre-planning a further push on fundraising will be carried out.

The date for the membership EGM has realistically gone back a little now with it expected to be called during early summer, given the requirement for sixty days’ notice.

 David Parker

**REPORTS**

**Winter Meeting, Tuesday, February 13th**

This was the now traditional evening when three of our own members gave short presentations. Four were planned, but very unfortunately Chris Edgley could not give his as all of his family had scarlet fever (now thankfully recovered). We hope that he will be able to give his talk next winter.

*The first speaker* was our Chairman, Andrew Halstead, who gave a beautifully illustrated talk on insects which mimic the appearance and in some cases the feeding behaviour of bees. To many of us it seemed that there is a surprisingly large number of such insects. Andrew reminded us that with a little practice we need not be confused by fly look-alikes as they have only two wings and shorter antennae than bees.

*Next we had a talk from Edwina Wardle* (our Education Coordinator) who gave a very comprehensive talk on “How to improve your beekeeping”. She dealt with many aspects of how to do this. It went far beyond what might be called the ‘hands on’ aspects of the subject. Her talk was very much based on her own experiences, her thoughts on the ways of the bees, and how we should try to tune in to their ways of working. Edwina also spoke of the value of some of the modules offered by the BBKA, not necessarily of actually taking the exams, (she felt that this would not appeal to everybody) but the study of the subjects in the modules using suitable books. She also emphasised the value of speaking with other beekeepers. Altogether a very interesting and beautifully constructed talk from a beekeeper of only a few years. A short discussion (mainly on the design and value of examinations) ensued when Edwina had completed her presentation.

*Finally Tim Hutchinson’s* very enlightening talk entitled ‘A bee farmer’s (possible) day in brief’ went far beyond this; perhaps ‘A ­year in the life of a bee farmer’ would have been more appropriate! He told how he and his wife Sally manage his 400 hives spread over a number of apiaries in Surrey and adjacent counties. He drew a gasp from some of the beginners in the audience when he told us that it takes him about 5-10 minutes to ‘go through’ a hive. He showed us pictures of some of his honey extracting and bottling premises and enviable equipment. Tim (with some input from Sally) fielded a number of questions during and at the end of his talk. I think that all of the audience were greatly impressed by the huge amount of work that Tim and Sally get through with their bees.

You can see more about their business on their website: www.beehappyproducts.co.uk

Someone said that it “had been a good evening”, and judging by the warmth of the atmosphere I think that this was the general feeling among the 30+ who attended.

As always, excellent refreshments had been prepared by Chris Chisholm and were served by her and helpers. This informal ‘tea break’ is a valuable part of our meetings, providing an opportunity for chatting and discussion.

Geoff Cooper

**EVENTS IN MARCH**

**Wisborough Green Division of West Sussex BKA Beekeeping Course, Saturday 3rd March, 9.00 – approx. 5.00 pm**

See flyer attached to February Newsletter.

**Winter Meetings at Hersham Village Society Hall, Burhill Road, Hersham KT12 4BJ**

*March Meeting* **Monday, 5th March, 7.30 pm** This will be a combined meeting with the members of the Beginners’ Course, providing a valuable opportunity for mixing with them – please do so!

It will be the Bee Diseases session of the Course, with David Rudland as the speaker. He makes even a potentially depressing bee disease talk entertaining. It is felt that we all benefit from a refresher on this vital aspect of our beekeeping, and it’s good to hear the latest opinions and advice on this.

*April Meeting* **Tuesday 10th April, 7.30 pm** This will be the annual Nosema Clinic to which members can bring samples of their bees for testing. Full details will be given in the April Newsletter. Having this Clinic early in the season gives plenty of time for doing a shook swarm if Nosema numbers warrant that.

Marion Cooper

**FUTURE EVENTS**

**Weybridge Summer Meetings**

As we go into March the chance of snow is still prevalent – in fact statistically we are more likely to have snow on Easter Friday than Christmas Day!  We have started the planning for the 2018 summer meetings.  You will see from the table below that we have dates and hosts fixed for the first three events in April, May and June.  Now these are tentative and of course subject to weather and various bee-related things i.e. state of them at our hosts.  However I am keen to give people dates to put in their diary now so that hopefully more of you will be able to make it.  Our hosts often put a lot of work into making a great day and I cannot think of a meeting I have attended where I have not gone away have learnt at least one new thing.

Apart from that it is also a great way for you to interact and catch up with other members.

For July and August we are still very much open to ideas on what to cover and who could host, so if you would like to host, or have ideas on what we should be covering please send me an email at [davidparker@polymathconsulting.com](mailto:davidparker@polymathconsulting.com)

You will also note  a special event in May in terms of a Cell Punching training session for queen rearing and there was a separate announcement on this that went out in February, however if you are interested in attending please contact me ASAP if you have not done so already.

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|  | **Hosts** | **Date** | **Main Subject** | **Secondary Subject** |
|  | Paul and Helen Bunclark | 14th April 2.30 pm | Bailey Comb Change  Shook Swarm | Making Asian Hornet Trap  from 2 litre pop bottle |
|  | Geoff and Marion  and David Parker | 19th May 2.30 pm | Swarm Control by a variety  of methods:  Demaree,  Pagden, Queen in Nuc, etc. | Finding and Marking  a queen |
|  | Paul Bunclark | 10th May evening | Roger Patterson Training course on Queen Rearing  using Cell Punching |  |
|  | Arran Taylor | 9th June 2.30 pm | Queen Harvesting,  Mini Nuc mating test | Different mating nucs,  Apidea, Kieler, Abelo,  v full sized nuc. |
|  |  | July |  | How to make up Sections,  tricks e.g. waxing wood etc.  Problems using them |
|  |  | Aug | ?? | How to produce cut comb |
|  |  | Sept | End of Season Social | 20 min Lecture/Presentation |

David Parker (davidparker@polymathconsulting.com)

**Surrey County Show, Monday May 28th. Help needed.**

We are looking for 40 volunteers to help man the Honey Tent at the Surrey County Show, Stoke Park, Guildford.  This year again we are asking for volunteers for the whole day 8.45-5.00 (subject to travel).  You will be allocated 1 hour to go around the show and 1 hour for lunch.   You will be provided a free entrance ticket, tea and coffee during the day and lunch in the tent.  If you would like to be a steward and are **willing to commit the time**, please complete the attached form and return, by 15th  April, to: Michael Main, Hill House, Northfield Place, Weybridge, KT13 0RF or by email to [michaelfmain@hotmail.com](mailto:michaelfmain@hotmail.com).  Queries to Michael by phone on 01932 849080. Thank you. Michael Main

Now is a good moment to start thinking about our entries for the Surrey Show. As well as honey, wax, cake, photographs and 'items of interest', see if Weybridge can get more points than Farnham in 2018!

Jane Hunter

**The Royal Three Counties Show, Three Counties Showground, Malvern, Worcestershire WR13 6NW**

Attached is a flyer for the Three Counties Show to be held on 15th – 17th June.

**The National Honey Show, Sandown Park, Esher, October 26th – 28th**

We have received an early communication from The National Honey Show team.

Details are on the attachment.

**ITEMS OF LOCAL INTEREST**

**Reigate Beekeepers Auction Saturday 7th April 2018 from 11.00 am**

Full details of this given in an attachment. This is an opportunity to sell and/or buy beekeeping equipment in very pleasant suroundings.

**More hives stolen, this time in Oxfordshire Near Fringford/Bicester, between 17th and 24th February 2018**

I suggest that you all look at the details (see attachment) of this theft in case you come across any of this equipment. Oxfordshire is not that far away from us. Keep your own bees safe!

**A tale of a visit to Malta.**

We recently had a week in Malta, trying to get some warmer weather. As part of the deal on this type of holiday, I always get dragged around at least one local market. My wife tells me that the aim is to find some local honey being sold by the beekeeper/bee farmer, rather than the supermarket stuff, of course. The fact that, usually, we have to browse through several hundred stalls selling all types of clothing, costume (junk mostly) jewelry, bags, belts, pots and the like is just a fact of life.

We went to Birgu, one of the "Three Cities", located the other side of the Grand Harbour from Valletta, because we had been told it was the biggest weekday market on the island. We did, eventually, find the one stall selling honey. On it, the stall holder had what I can only assume is the local version of a display hive, of which I've attached two photos.

There were jars of plain honey, chunk honey and some small portions of comb honey, as well as a whole frame for sale. I didn't ask the price of the small portions, but the pricing structure for everything else was quite straighforward: a 400gm jar, or a whole frame was €15. I thought that was very expensive for 400gm, especially later, on a day trip to Gozo, where we found a jar of Gozitan honey, in a greengrocer's shop for only €8, for 400gm. I suppose that the price for a frame of sealed comb wasn't too bad, though.

So, we brought home two jars, to add to our collection of honey from Argentina, Chile, France, Italy and USA. I should point out that we do use my own honey, too, from time to time.

Paul Hildersley

*Thank you, Paul, for this article. It’s always interesting to hear about aspects of bees and beekeeping from abroad. From our own experiences in this field, we have found it’s worth seeking out beekeepers in foreign parts. We have always found them to be most welcoming - one couple we met in in Canada in 2002 still keep in touch with us.*

**Weybridge Beekeepers and Publicity**

As the great PT Barnum once inferred “good publicity, bad publicity, it’s all publicity”. However, it’s true to say that for the Weybridge Beekeepers Division, our preference is to avoid bad publicity at all costs, full stop!

But it does beg the question as to whether we are doing enough self-publicity in the first place?

So I decided to try and tackle this question in my role on the committee, and set out to help generate as much interest as possible about this year’s beginners course as we could. The one limitation I had was that there is no budget for this kind of thing, so it had to be free. I should also add that I had no prior experience in this area and what unfolded was an interesting journey and a lot of email.

Cutting a long story short, we ended up revamping our division flyers that we hand out at the events that the division attends, I spoke to local free magazines and blagged free copy (they normally charge for advertising – Weybridge LookLocal, Elmbridge Lifestyle Magazine and YourElmbridge). One of our members (though they weren’t at the time) kindly got us some air time on Brooklands radio (and she’s also planning a piece about us in the Weybridge Society Newsletter - <https://www.weybridgesociety.org.uk/> ) and we also sweated online resources like local Facebook groups (The Weybridge Network) a virtual neighbourhood called NextDoor (<https://nextdoor.com/>) and our local area website called AllAboutWeybridge (<https://weybridge-surrey.allaboutweybridge.co.uk/>). We also gave our own website a bit of a tidy up and followed some general tips on SEO (search engine optimisation – this helps one’s website appear high up on a list of Google search results).

To test the efficacy of the publicity drive, we polled this year’s intake of new beekeeper students to ask them how they had heard about the beginners course and quizzed them more generally about their awareness of the division being mentioned elsewhere.

Firstly our thanks go to all the new students as we got a 100% feedback.

The results concluded that 50% of them used Google at some point to find our website. Also word of mouth is still key as are the handout leaflets at events.

So there was nothing too startling in the findings, and every little bit of publicity helped in some way which then persuaded people to dig further.

Not unsurprisingly our division website is a key publicity asset as that is intuitively what people search for on Google - the more links we have to our website from other websites also helps and of course old fashioned word of mouth always works whether it's via swarm collections, leaflets or copy in publications.

Our chairman sums it up neatly in that the survey *“ …shows that a scatter gun approach to publicity does produce the necessary results in getting a full class of students. Every member of the division can be a publicist for our division and beekeeping in general by talking to people about the joys and benefits of keeping bees.*”

And to this last point, we’d like to appeal to each and every one of you to continue to help spread the word about beekeeping and our Division. A copy of our latest publicity flyer was sent out to all members a few months ago, so if you’d like to receive another copy in case you missed it the first time around, just contact me directly, as these can be handed out to friends, colleagues, pinned up on notice boards, etc.

And the more people that visit our website, it all helps, as it pushes the site up the Google search rankings.

And lastly, we made an appeal in the last month’s Feb newsletter for someone with experience in harnessing social media to step forward and help us develop a strategy, so we’d like to appeal for help once more, please don’t be shy.

Richard Hignett (richard\_d\_hignett@hotmail.com)

*Many thanks to Richard for this huge amount of investigative work and the conclusions and recommendations that he has presented to us. I think that the least we can do is to look at our website on which a significant amount of work has been done by Martin Major and more recently by Richard. Also do get in touch with Richard with your own ideas and suggestions to support the publicity initiative that he has started.*

**ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST**

**Courses at East Surrey Bees**

Below and attached are details of courses we at East Surrey Bees are running this Spring /Summer; as an independent business we don't have members, so  we often pass details of the Divisions to our course  participants.

While it is a little difficult to think of bee keeping and hive inspections at the moment, especially with this weeks forecast weather, we are planning several training days in the near future that some of Weybridge members might like to join.

**Sunday 25th March    ‘Spring into the Bee Season’** A practical day where we will go through a number of hives to assess the state of the colonies and decide how to move forward. We demonstrate both Bailey Comb Change and Shook Swarm to put bees on to new comb for the season as well as looking at spring feeding, and preparation for the spring and summer nectar flows and varroa control. Other topics will be covered as they arise during the day or participants want answered. If we do have some bad weather we have a full indoor programme.

**Sunday 20th May    Queen Rearing**    A full day of practical hands on activity when we work through various ways in which the best possible queens are produced.  We look at grafting, the cup kit method, the use of mini nucs and queen rearing from modified swarm control methods.

**Saturday 30th June   Disease Day**We have a licence to hold frames infected with EFB and AFB so you will have a chance to see these ‘nasties’ up close! We also look at other pathogens that can affect our colonies and the most effective ways of keeping them at bay.

All day courses start at 10.30, finish around 4pm and a ploughman’s lunch will be provided. Directions to the apiary will be sent on booking.

If you would like any more details we would be happy to supply them.

Celia and David Rudland, East Surrey Bees

**Giant Asian Hornet footage. How hornets can be dealt with (well, at least some)**

If you missed it recently, there's some good footage of bees fending off hornets in S. Korea that was shown on the BBC. You can still catch it on iPlayer, see minute 23.

South Korea: Earth's Hidden Wilderness: [www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b09s0lss](http://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b09s0lss)

Richard and Andrew Halstead confirm that these Asian hornets are not the ones we are ‘expecting’ here, i.e. *Vespa velutina*, but the giant Asian hornet, also known as the Japanese giant hornet, *Vespa mandarinia*.

Richard Hignett

*Thank you for this interesting item Richard. There are so many things on TV that it is very easy to miss a lot of them.*

**Pollinator-friendly garden flowers: an interesting report, especially for gardeners**

Researchers at the Laboratory of Apiculture and Social Insects (LASI) at the University of Sussex have completed one of the first scientific studies to put the business of recommending pollinator-friendly garden flowers on a firmer scientific footing.

The study involved repeatedly counting flower-visiting insects over two summers as they foraged on 32 popular summer-flowering garden plants in a specially planted experimental garden on the University’s campus (each variety in two 1x1m beds), with two smaller additional gardens set up in year two to check the generality of the results.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4u2LeTPGo9w>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=stMgzQ1_kVA>

*Our thanks to David Parker for sending these details.*

**BBKA Swarm Collectors List. Swarm and Collectors Protocol**

*The following has been sent to us by the BBKA. It seems to me to contain enough important information to print it in the newsletter in full rather than as a summary and an attachment;*

The on line facility at www.bbka.org.uk is a list of BBKA/Association members who are willing to be contacted by members of the general public in the event of them having a problem with a swarm of honey bees.

As the beekeeper attending a swarm problem, they represent both their Association and therefore the BBKA, this is why only BBKA members are included on the bbka.org.uk swarm collectors list It is a condition of being accepted on this swarm collection list that the beekeeper will not collect swarms to sell for personal financial gain.

The facility can be used by any member of the general public, using the post-code locator. On inputting their post code into the “find a collectors” part of the website, the system displays the contact details of beekeepers within a ten mile radius of their stated postcode who are able and willing to collect honey bees. The only personal contact details displayed are the beekeepers name and their preferred contact telephone number.

This protocol is intended to identify the necessary knowledge and standards, which are felt to be required of any beekeeper who undertakes this task on behalf of their Association:

CONSIDERATIONS:  
Dealing with a swarm of honey bees can be a difficult task. It is therefore recommended that new or inexperienced beekeepers should not undertake this work until they have received appropriate training within their Association and gained sufficient knowledge and experience of swarm collecting.

Telephone calls from the public can relate to all flying insects and not just honey bees i.e. wasps, bumble bees, solitary bees etc so the beekeeper must know what advice to provide should the reported problem not be honey bee related. Members of the public are generally concerned about swarms of honey bees and the beekeeper must be able and confident to deal with the situation and maintain a safe working environment.

As a member of any swarm collecting system, it is expected that a beekeeper whose name is on the collectors list will remain on the list for the whole of the season. If a beekeeper accepts a “swarm call”, the beekeeper then owns the problem until it has either been resolved or they pass to a fellow beekeeper to resolve i.e. it must not be ignored.

**BBKA Insurance is invalid if the swarm collection is done for commercial gain.**

RECOMMENDED PERSON:  
A Swarm Collector must be a beekeeper with experience of bees and beekeeping. Be aware of, and be able to assess the potential dangers and risks associated with swarm collecting to themselves, the public and property and deal with them appropriately. Have received training & experience of collecting a swarm together with an experienced beekeeper; who will have mentored the beekeeper in the task to ensure that the beekeeper is able to undertake the task correctly and safely. They should be aware of the public liability insurance restrictions associated with their membership, i.e. whilst the beekeeper can request payment of expenses associated with the work or a donation to their Association, the beekeeper cannot:

* ⋅  Undertake the work for commercial gain i.e. cannot make a charge for the service
* ⋅  Sell-on the swarm to a third party

The Swarm Collector must be familiar with the BBKA Guidelines on swarm collection, know what to do in respect to the safe disposal of the swarm once collected i.e. hive or pass it to another beekeeper. Must be able to communicate with the public and be prepared to show their BBKA membership card.

*It has been requested that local swarm collectors who do not have a regular charity to which they give donations from swarm collection, could suggest if asked, that a contribution be made towards our new building project.*

**The Flow Hive**

New beekeepers, and those on the beginners course, may not know of this type of hive. It has caused a great deal of interest coupled with a great deal of scepticism. Is it really possible to collect honey from a hive simply by switching on a tap? To put it mildly, this hive has very much ‘taken off’ both commercially and in the opinion of some beekeepers. For a comprehensive background information go to the *Daily Telegraph* website:

[http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/02/10/suddenly-total-mayhem-australian-inventors-celebrate-success](http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/02/10/suddenly-total-mayhem-australian-inventors-celebrate-success/)

**Pesticides put bees at risk, European watchdog confirms**

Latest dated report bearing the date 28 February 2018. For the report see:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-43226205>

**New clues to decline of bees and other pollinators**

Brightly-coloured hoverflies (which resemble bees and wasps) may be picking up bee viruses as they forage at the same flowers. See report on: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-43200277>

*The above three items were contributed by David Parker.*

**FOR SALE**

Neither the Newsletter Editor nor Surrey Beekeepers Association take any responsibility for the accuracy of any of the following entries, or for the condition of any of the items advertised. If considering purchasing bees or secondhand equipment, the prospective purchaser should take great care to ensure that the bees are not diseased, and that all equipment is sterilised before use. Inexperienced purchasers should take a knowledgeable beekeeper with them.

**Beekeeping equipment**

We are going to move to Ireland this year and keep the horses but give up beekeeping. There may be some kit that will be of interest to someone at very reasonable prices :)

These are: Feeder, Hive Tools (brush and levers, Smoker) plus a complete hive (brood box + two supers) all with frames. This is in someone's garden in Cobham but can be retrieved quickly. It was a non-thriving colony so supers have clean frames. Otherwise it has been untouched since bees died out.

Someone could have whole shebang above for £100 if that's of interest.

John and Brenda Spencer (01932 240374 john.spencer@operamail.com)

**Bees for sale**

**A number of ESTABLISHED OVERWINTERED COLONIES with 2017 Queen (National Standard brood frames)**

The colonies were treated with Apivar for Varroa in late summer/autumn 2017. They have a gentle temperament and are good foragers. All queens are locally reared from our gentle breeding stock.

Price of each colony: £180 (excluding hive) .  These colonies are available in early spring as soon as the weather allows. For more information, please contact me – details below.

**NUCS (available to pre-order now – see** Special Offer **below)  (We do not overwinter nucs)**

**- 6 Frame Nucs** (National standard frames) with 2018 mated queen (marked red).   Supplied in 6 frame Poly Nuc. £150 + £30 nuc deposit which is refundable on return.

**- 5 Frame Nucs** (National standard frames) with 2018 mated queen (marked red).   Supplied in 5 frame Correx Travelling Box. Price: £155.  (*continued on next page)*

The nucs will have a mated 2018 Queen, locally reared from our gentle breeding stock, together with a combination of her brood in various stages and stores.   These nucs will be available from mid June onwards depending on the weather.

**Special Offer**: We offer a £5 discount for nuc orders received by 30th April.

**Contact: Astrid Bowers-Veenman** **(Hog's Back Bees and Bee Products)**

Location: Ash Green (between Guildford and Farnham, just off the A31)

Distance from Weybridge: 12 miles (as the crow flies)

**Tel.No.: 01252 330229 / Mobile: 07803 069798 / Email:** [**astrid@coginternational.co.uk**](mailto:astrid@coginternational.co.uk)

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

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| **Dates for your diary** | | | | | |
| Saturday | March 3rd | 9.30 am – 5 pm | | West Sussex BKA Course | p. 3 and Feb. flyer |
| Monday | March 5th | 7.30 pm | | Winter Meeting. Bee Diseases, David Rudland | p. 3 |
| Saturday | April 7th | From 11.0 am | | Reigate auction | p. 5 and attachment |
| Tuesday | April 10th | 7.30 pm | | Nosema Clinic | Full details later |
| Saturday | April 14th | 2.30 pm | | Summer Meeting. Paul and Helen Bunclark | p. 4 |
| Thursday | May10th | Evening | | Roger Patterson at Paul Bunclark’s. Cell Punching. | p. 4 |
| Saturday | May 19th | 2.30 pm | | Summer Meeting at Painshill Park. Geoff, Marion & David Parker | p. 4 |
| Monday | May 28th | All day | | Surrey County Show | p. 4 |
| Saturday | June 9th | 2.30 pm | | Summer Meeting. Arran Taylor | p. 4 |
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| **Regional Bee Inspector**  Sandra Gray – 07775 119430  Email: [sandra.gray@apha.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:sandra.gray@apha.gsi.gov.uk) | | | Seasonal Bee Inspector  Hilary Hayward - 07900 167409  email: Hilary.Hayward@apha.gsi.gov.uk | | |
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