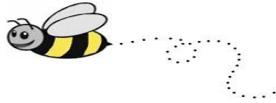


# The Tivvy Buzzette



The newsletter of the Tiverton Beekeepers ~ February 2016



## **BRANCH MEETINGS**

at Uplowman Village Hall

Wed 17<sup>th</sup> Feb 7:30 Tree Beekeeping with Jonathan Powell.

Wed 16<sup>th</sup> March 7:30. Nuc boxes with David Charles.

Please support your branch at our meetings. We look forward to seeing you.

## **Beginners' meetings 2015/16 7.30-9.30pm on Wednesdays in Uplowman Village Hall**

27 <sup>th</sup>	January	– Queen rearing
10 <sup>th</sup>	February	– Pests & diseases
24 <sup>th</sup>	February	– Bee plants & hive products
9 <sup>th</sup>	March	– Getting started

The first meeting of the Tiverton Beekeepers for 2016 took place at Uplowman Village hall on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> January.

Before this months talk club announcements were made, which this month included an appeal to members who wished to start the improvers course in March to put their names forward to Keith Owers, Keith also offered a lift to anyone who wanted to attend the DBKA spring convention at Holsworthy on February 27<sup>th</sup>. Our Bulk buying co-ordinator Derek Evans reported a slow take up for foundation and urged members to put their orders in time before the cut off date of the 7<sup>th</sup> of February.

After Club business and announcements had been dealt with our Chairman Malcolm Jenkins welcomed the speaker for the evening Adam Vevers.

Adam is well known in Bee keeping circles and his talk for the evening was on the topic of a group visit in 2013 to fellow Beekeepers in Denmark that he was part of. With the aid of slides, the 27 members present were treated to some fascinating facts & stories on subjects such as queen rearing, wax processing and swarm control at some large commercial apiaries that the group visited.

Adams talk was informal and members were urged to ask questions during his presentation, as usual our members did not let him down, with many of them raising interesting points which Adam dealt with in his usual informative way. It was interesting to learn that Danish Beekeepers do a lot of their bee breeding “off shore” of the mainland in the countries many and varied islands, this ensured that they could keep the breed species fairly unique by selective Queen mating with their desired introduced Drones. To ensure that the islands bees remain unique, the Danish government only issue licenses to selected Beekeepers allowing them to take bees there for the breeding season only.

Adam was thanked by the Chairman on behalf of the members who then broke for refreshments, the meeting closed at around 10pm.

For full program of meetings or to find out more about Tiverton Beekeepers then please go to our website <http://tivertonbeekeepers.org.uk/>

## **A Beekeepers tale of odd shaped balls!**

January the 22<sup>nd</sup> thanks to the efforts of Malcolm Crook & David Pearce, saw the revival of the skittle match between Tiverton & Taunton Beekeepers, which used to take place a few years back.

Around 25 members and their partners from both clubs assembled at the Blue Ball Inn at Sampford Moor at 7:30. After introductions and catching up with old friends battle commenced around 8:00. The first rub went to Taunton by 4 pins but we came back to take the 2<sup>nd</sup> then lost the 3<sup>rd</sup>, won the 4<sup>th</sup> but lost the 5<sup>th</sup>.

The skittle balls at the Blue Ball are made from the finest Apple wood, but not exactly round, this caused some amusement (and frustration) as a perfectly straight throw would veer off at the last second and either go off the alley or score not as many as hoped, but it was the same for all – so no point in blaming the balls, in fact they were a great leveler for experienced and novice alike!

The balls after been thrown are returned down a 8 inch plastic pipe which runs through the wall to outside the building and then returns back through the wall to the thrower – simple? Everything worked fine until the 4<sup>th</sup> rub when the balls were put in the pipe but failed to materialize at the other end, 2 more spare balls were thrown down the pipe to dislodge the 3 stuck balls, but to no avail, there had obviously been a problem before as there was some draining rods placed at the end of the pipe.

All the rods were used but all that came out the other end were the rods - no balls, even local knowledge was employed but to no avail! David Pearce to the rescue, with the aid of a hessian bag tied to the draining rod and hey presto out came the balls! Despite Taunton winning 3 rubs and Tiverton 2, we knocked more pins by 4 - so to Tiverton the spoils, (although I think both teams would settle for a draw!) All in all it was a great night and thanks must go to Malcolm, David and all the staff at the Blue Ball who laid on a lovely buffet for the assembled skittlers.

## **Foundation and frame orders**

### **Foundation**

Don't forget to send in your order by **10pm Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> February**. This is critical if we are to get the lowest prices for the foundation. I always try to send a confirmation of your order, by return via email.

Order via the Website. If there is a problem give me a call and I can advise you what to do.

This is an offer too good to miss! By ordering in bulk we get a 25% discount on the foundation from Maisemores and we should be able to miss the imminent 15-20% increase in the price of wax, due in mid February.

### **Frames**

Frames (flat packed) are also available to be purchased and after a little confusion, on my part, we are selling the following:

1. SN 1 per 10 @ £9.60
2. DN 1 per 10 @ £9.60
3. DN 5 Hoffman type per 10 £12.00
4. Plastic ends per 100 £7.50
5. Frame Nails per 500g £7.50

The frames can also be purchased individually eg 1 SN 1 £0.96

### **Three alternative ways of ordering:**

1. **Use the Web Site ordering system**
2. **Print off the order form attached to this Buzzette, complete and e-mail/post it to me**
3. **Fill in and post the order form collected from our last Branch Meeting**

**DON'T FORGET ALL ORDERS BY 10pm SUNDAY 7<sup>th</sup> February**

This is just one of the benefits of belonging to the Tiverton Bee Keepers- **SAVING MONEY!**

Derek EVANS. Bulk Buying Coordinator. [jender008@gmail.com](mailto:jender008@gmail.com)

If you would like to have an article or notice included in the Buzzette then please email them to the editor [jon.gubb@voddens.co.uk](mailto:jon.gubb@voddens.co.uk) by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month to ensure inclusion in the following months edition. Please include any images with your email.

Tiverton Beekeepers are a branch of The Devon Beekeepers Association. Registered Charity No 270675.

**TBK Order Form – 2016**

Members Name	
Address 1	
Address 2	
Address 3	
Postcode	
Contact telephone	
Contact email	

Description	Spec	Base	Cost	Quantity
BS National Deep (Brood) per 10	Foundation Wired	Worker	£7.05	
BS National 14x12 per 10	Foundation Wired	Worker	£11.99	
BS National Deep (Brood) per 10	Foundation Unwired	Worker	£6.21	
BS National Shallow (super) per 10	Foundation Wired	Worker	£4.46	
BS National Shallow (super) per 10	Foundation Unwired	Worker	£3.79	
Commercial Deep (Brood) per 10	Foundation Wired	Worker	£9.59	
SN1 Frame Flat per 10	Flat packed		£9.60	
DN1 Frame Flat per 10	Flat packed		£9.60	
DN5 Hoffman Frame Flat per 10	Flat packed		£12.00	
Narrow Plastic ends per 100	State Colour		£7.50	
Commercial Shallow	Foundation Unwired	Worker	£7.29	
Langstroth Deep	Foundation Wired	Worker	£8.90	
Langstroth Shallow	Foundation Unwired	Worker	£4.85	
Langstroth Shallow	Foundation Cut comb	Worker	£4.06	
Frame Nails per 500g	Boxed 500g		£7.50	

Other sizes available – see Maisemore’s Web Site for prices -25% Discount – rounded up to the next 1p!  
 Please send via e-mail to Derek Evans to arrive by 10pm 7<sup>th</sup> Feb 2016 (jender008@gmail.com) or by post to 8, Brickhouse Hill, TIVERTON EX16 6BG. Orders available for collection from 24<sup>th</sup> February approx to be collected before 28<sup>th</sup> from the above address.

Payment by cheque to “DBKA – Tiverton Branch” to Derek Evans on collection of goods. Alternatively by BACS transfer:- Sort Code 60-21-27 Account No 06514553 quote ref Bulk Buying/Membership Name or number please.

Orders to be received by Derek Evans by latest 7<sup>th</sup> February

Approx delivery date to TBK 23<sup>rd</sup> February Approx

**By placing this order I agree to be liable to pay for in full prior to, or upon collection of the above products that I have ordered.**