

The Tivvy Buzzette



The newsletter of the Tiverton Beekeepers ~ March 2017

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

Branch Meetings.

**Wednesday March 15th – “Pheromone Communication” with Claire Densley
Uplowman Village Hall 7:30.**

**We still have a vacancy on the committee for a Branch Secretary, to replace Tony. Interested?
Then please contact the Chairman Malcolm Jenkins.**

February Meeting Report

The February club meeting was held at the usual venue on Wednesday 15th February with around 25 members present. After club business and announcements had been made the group settled down to an evening with Keith & Baruch who demonstrated alternative methods to the wedge bar and nails approach to making frames.

Baruch spoke first and demonstrated how he wires his frames horizontally with a continuous single strand of wire which was kept taut, before passing a low voltage electric current through it and laying a sheet of unwired wax sheet on, the current heated up the wires and this in turn melted into the sheet, Care had to be taken to not let the wire get too hot so that it melted right through the sheet!

Next up was Keith who showed us a method of melting the wax sheet directly to the frame with an electric soldering iron, this eliminated the need to use the wedge bars. The wax sheet was laid on the top bar of the frame and then simply touched briefly with the hot soldering iron about every 15-20 mm, this was enough to just melt the wax and stick it to the top bar of the frame.

After the demonstrations the speakers were thanked by the Chairman and the gathered members broke for tea, coffee & biscuits.

The meeting closed at around 9:55.

Committee Members Please Note:-

Dear All - branch committee meeting on Tuesday 7th March at 7.30. Hope to see you all there.

Regards
Tony

Devon Bee Health Day

Make a date in your Diary.

Okehampton Branch of the Devon Beekeepers Association will be host its first Devon Bee Health Day with support from Simon Jones (Regional Bee Inspector on behalf of APHA) and his team of seasonal bee inspectors.

Bow Village Hall EX17 6HU

Saturday 1st July 2017.

Drinks available throughout the day. Please bring a packed lunch.

The full programme & timing of the day will be announced in “Beekeeping” later in the year. But will include a practical apiary disease inspection.

Cost of the day will be £5.00. The total No will be limited to 60 members to maximise the benefits of the day and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Remember to bring a clean bee suit and wellies.

Register from the 1st of April with Simon O’Sullivan 01363 82838.

email; grannysmeadow@hotmail.com

Hello Everybody

In November of last year I was in Australia, and shared a speaking engagement with Stuart Anderson, co-inventor of the extremely controversial Flow Hive. I asked him if he would be prepared to conduct a skype talk with British beekeepers. It transpired that he was prepared to do more than that, as he is visiting the UK in April.

Stuart will be visiting the Somerton division of Somerset BKA on the afternoon of 6th May and we have booked a venue which will seat 240, so as to accommodate as many as would like to hear the story direct, and ask any questions that may cross their minds. It is a contentious way of harvesting honey, and I was fortunate enough to see several of these hives in operation. Please circulate your members, so that they have the opportunity of seeing the possibilities (or not) of this very different system.

Unusually for Somerton Beekeepers, we are making a minimal charge for this event, because of the size of venue needed and other costs.

Please contact our treasurer Steve Horne for tickets - details are on the attached flier.

Regards, Stewart Gould. Somerton Beekeepers Assoc'n.

If you have any interesting articles relating to Bees & Beekeeping, please do not hesitate to forward them to me by email to jon.gubb@voddens.co.uk by the 27th of the month for inclusion in the next months edition of the Buzzette.