

ASIAN HORNET
Open Meeting

Our guest speaker will be Martyn Hocking from
Woolacombe,
who will be talking about his experience of finding Asian
Hornets in his apiary.
After which, there will be a discussion about a range of
issues that have arisen.

2.00pm - 5.00pm on Saturday, 20th January, 2018
in Harberton Parish Hall, Harberton, Totnes, TQ9 7SD

Beekeepers from across SW England and representatives of
organisations
with a special interest in the Asian Hornet have been
invited.

Ample parking is available, though to help reduce numbers
of cars, if possible, please share lifts.

Afternoon Tea and Cakes

Please contact Jill & Ken Beagley if you would like to
attend.

jill@armchairpuppets.co.uk

Dear Devon Beekeepers,

We are beekeepers near Totnes, in South Devon, who are responding to the fact that Asian Hornets were found in North Devon this autumn as well as Tetbury and North Somerset in 2016.

Having read Martyn Hocking's article that was published in both the November editions of 'Bee Craft' and 'Beekeeping - Devon Beekeepers' magazine' about his experience of finding Asian Hornets in his apiary near Woolacombe in North Devon this autumn, (see page 172 at this link - <http://www.devonbeekeepers.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/2017-Novemberweb.pdf> we have been in touch with him.

As a result, we have called an open meeting on ASIAN HORNETS at 2.00pm - 5.00pm on Saturday, 20th January, 2018 in Harberton Parish Hall, TQ9 7SD, at which Martyn Hocking will be the guest speaker and where there will be an opportunity to discuss a range of issues that have arisen.

As we are expecting much interest in this meeting, **we would appreciate being contacted by anyone wishing to attend**, so can have sufficient refreshments available at the hall during the meeting and we can put anyone needing accommodation in touch with the local B&B's in the area.

A follow up article has since been written by Martyn, in which he makes various suggestions about how beekeepers can be given better support should they find themselves in his situation. This second article will be printed in the December/January edition of 'Beekeeping - Devon Beekeepers' magazine'.

Martyn feels that there is only a short time in which to get organised and prepared for the arrival of the next Asian Hornet queen, if we are to have any chance of keeping this non-native species out of the UK.

We have invited beekeepers from across SW England, in the hope that representatives from each county in the S.W. are present to share experiences and thoughts for the future and there are already beekeepers coming from Cornwall, Dorset, South Gloucestershire and Bath. We would be most grateful if you could please advertise the above information to all beekeepers in your branch.

We are also hoping that representatives from other organisations with an interest in the Asian Hornet will be present at the meeting and we are in touch with the Devon Non-Native Species Initiative.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes,

Jill & Ken Beagley