

The Tivvy Buzzette



The newsletter of the Tiverton Beekeepers ~ December 2017

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

Branch Meetings.

Next Meeting

Christmas meal Dec 8th, at the Mid Devon Indoor Bowling Club, Amory Park, Tiverton 7:00 for 7:30pm.

Seasons Greetings

Your Chairman and Committee of Tiverton Beekeepers would like to wish all members a Happy Christmas along with a prosperous New Year, and to thank you for your support during the last year. Don't forget to renew your membership for 2018 the renewal membership form is available on the branch website.

www.tivertonbeekeepers.org.uk/joinrenew-membership

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

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 look forward to hearing from you. Best wishes, Jill & Ken Beagley

Branch Secretary

The committee are pleased to announce the election at the AGM and to welcome Jessica Lee as our new Branch Secretary. Jess replaces Tony Lindsell who held the post for a number of years and who is now the president of the DBKA. Jessica's contact details are available on the branch website.

2018 Branch Meeting Programme - all at Uplowman Village Hall

7.30 Wednesday January 17th Jack Mummery talking about Honey.

Want to know how to get the best from your honey for your own use, are you interested in how to prepare honey to show or how to ensure your labels have all the required information, then come along and listen to Jack. Jack is a member of North Devon Branch and is a very experienced beekeeper so you'll also probably pick up some of his beekeeping tips. He has won many awards for his honey and the other products from the hive that he produces and is often now asked to be a judge at local shows. He also runs the Honey Sales in the Bees & Honey Marquee at the Devon County Show.

7.30 Wednesday 21st February Our own Keith Owers will be giving a talk on Alternative Uses for Nucs - more details next month.

Keeping Warm an article from Baruch

Here is an idea for a Christmas present for your bees – wrap them up with a waterproof piece of insulating material, secured with duck tape and folded over a square piece of carpet offcut or other warm material. This will keep the colony warmer and prevent the hive from getting wet. This appears to reduce the condensation inside, probably because the hive walls are now warmer.



Double foil bubble wrap secured tightly around the hive, folded over a piece of wool carpet.

Below: with the roof on.



The sheet of insulation is 2m long, which allows for a bit of overlap at the end, secured with some duck tape. The width of the piece is 30cm for a brood, and 50 or 60cm for brood-and-a-half. (You can get a 0.5mX10m piece for £18 from 01803 857664 chrissimmonds1@hotmail.com, or 1.2mX25m for £45.50 from Home Style Stores on ebay.)



DEVON BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

Registered Charity No 270675

General Secretary - Barry Neal, Badgers Barn, Withacott, Langtree, Torrington
EX38 8NL

01805-601715; 07789-435477; *gen.sec.dbka@gmail.com*

Annual General Meeting 2018

The Devon Beekeepers' Association (DBKA) Annual General Meeting will be held
in

the Bridge Suite, the ISCA Centre, Summer Lane, Whipton, Exeter EX4 8NT

at 10.15 am on Saturday 3rd March 2018

An agenda and further details will be published in due course in Beekeeping
Magazine

Proposals for agenda items and nominations for election to DBKA County Officer
posts (DBKA

Website refers) must be forwarded to the DBKA General Secretary no later than

Wednesday 3rd January 2018

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