



WOKINGHAM & DISTRICT BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

Helping honeybees & beekeepers since 1946



website:
www.wdbka.org.uk
or scan the above code

Bee-news-ed

W&DBKA Newsletter

2019 Issue 9, October

(To contact the editor please e-mail wokinghambeekeepers@gmail.com)

The Committee...

The committee met on Tuesday 01 September. Member Tony Lack, who wanted to find out more about the Apiary Manager position, joined us for the first time. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 05 November.

First Aid Presentation @ October Bowls Club Meeting

Red Cross representative, Sue Stovell's presentation before the AGM proceedings aimed to give us the basic knowledge and confidence to help, and not walk past, those who are clearly in need of First Aid. We saw videos of actors apparently collapsed in a busy thoroughfare being ignored by passing pedestrians (even when moaning in pain and asking for help). Sue got us to discuss: why people might not have stepped in to see what was wrong and also what has happened when members have stepped forward to help people - including an incident earlier that day. Calling emergency services is the important first action because all we can provide is First Aid until the paramedics arrive with their knowledge and expertise.

We learned how to stay safe when approaching an incident, what to look for and how we deal with what we find. Sue showed how to stem bleeding, open the airway, the recovery position and cardio pulmonary resuscitation (CPR). There was a brief demonstration of a defibrillator and we heard it guiding the user through the steps involved - including continuing with CPR. There was the opportunity to try CPR on a couple of dummies - neither of them was me!!

Annual General Meeting (Wednesday 09 October)

Members elected a new Honorary President, Ted Buckingham, at the Association's Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 09 October.

Ted, a member since 1974, gave the meeting an amusing acceptance speech outlining how he moved to Berkshire in 1953 and subsequently got involved in beekeeping. He entertained us with a number of stories including the first meeting with his wife in Liverpool. The two of them recently celebrated 66 years of happy marriage.

The Chair started AGM proceedings with his welcome address, which include his apiary report; this was followed by apologies for absence and matters arising. Next the Association's secretary and treasurer presented their reports. The treasurer's report included a proposal to increase annual fees, which the members present, voted unanimously to implement. Fee increase details and how to pay has been emailed to members. NOTE: Our website does not yet show the new fee levels.

During the Learning and Development (L&D) Officer's report, which was next, four of the six members who passed their BBKA Basic assessment this year were presented with their certificates and badges. We learnt that our L&D Officers couldn't stand again next year because of other commitments.

The treasurer then outlined proposed minor changes to the constitution that were unanimously agreed by the meeting.



WOKINGHAM & DISTRICT BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

Helping honeybees & beekeepers since 1946



website:
www.wdbka.org.uk
or scan the above code

Election of officers for the forthcoming year saw existing post holders being re-elected, with the exception of the Learning and Development position for which there were no candidates and now stands vacant. The Chair asked for any other business items before closing the AGM.

The evening's program ended with the drawing of the customary raffle.

Our Annual Honey Show: Wednesday 13 November

If you are a member you can enter! A reminder will be issued nearer the time but in the meantime here are the categories:

- Runny Honey
- Set Honey
- Items made of beeswax
- Cakes, goods etc baked with honey - only two entries last year - so there was a guaranteed placing if anyone else had entered!
- Bee based photographs, taken in the last 12 months
- Honey frame, and
- Mead.

Proceedings will include a raffle - donations will be welcomed on the night.

Another Date for Your Diary

- 24/25/26 October: National Honey Show at Sandown Park Racecourse.
www.honeyshow.co.uk

Second Asian Hornet Nest Destroyed in Christchurch

On 12 October 2019 the BBKA reported the following:

“A second Asian Hornet nest has been found near the first in Christchurch in Dorset. The first nest, high in a tall tree, was destroyed on 4th of October and thanks to continuing surveillance of the area this second nest was found at ground level. It is thought to be a primary nest. Genetic analysis will be carried out on the nests.

Three nests have been found and destroyed so far this year - two at Christchurch and one at Tamworth in Staffordshire. There have been confirmed sightings of Asian Hornets at Ashford in Kent and New Milton in Hampshire.

Since 2016, there have been a total of 17 confirmed sightings of the Asian hornet in England and nine nests have been destroyed.

The latest finding means that as the leaves fall off the trees we want you to look up for nests previously hidden in foliage...” “...It is now clear that we need to be alert for hornets flying low as well.”

In Bee Craft's recent Asian Hornet Update they stated that most of the verified sightings have been reported by non-beekeepers - so we must keep them informed.

...And Finally... BDI insurance

If you have to make a claim you will need to have cover for the number of colonies you have at the time of the claim. So when renewing your annual fees allow for any increase in your colony numbers during the year as a result of collecting swarms, swarm management or other reasons.