



THE TIVVY BUZZETTE

The Newsletter of Tiverton Beekeepers – November 2019

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

What Events Are Coming Up?

Weds 20th Nov – Our AGM followed by
“A Demonstration of How to Make Beeswax
Wraps with Norma King.
7.30 pm at Uplowman Village Hall

Sat 14th Dec – DBKA AGM
10.15am at Quince Honey Farm
More details on DBKA website

Fun Bee Quotation for November!

One can no more
approach people
without love than
one can approach
bees without care.
Such is the quality
of bees...

Leo Tolstoy

The AGM



The words “*dreaded AGM*” were voiced at the last Wednesday meeting and it was very quickly pointed out that it should not be seen in this light – **ACTUALLY IT IS OUR MOST IMPORTANT MEETING FOR THE BRANCH and that person was right!** This is the meeting where there is a chance for all members to take a role in shaping their club. We really would like you to try and come and would really love it if you could find time to join the committee.

A reminder of those vacant roles:

Chair/Vice Chair
Webmaster
Apiary team leader
Swarm coordinator

Treasurer/membership secretary
AHAT coordinator
Apiary team members
Press officer

Programme secretary:
Display team leader:
EC delegate/DBKA trustee
Buzzette editor

If you need to talk to anyone feel free to contact me for a chat – secretary@tivertonbeekeepers.uk
Or ring me Jessica – 01363 860252

A Review on Our Last Talk - Thirty years of Bee-keeping with Richard Ball

This was a fun informative talk with Richard telling us about his bee-keeping life from childhood onwards and his various roles as bee-inspectors in different counties. He touched on the arrival of varroa and how it was largely ignored in the early days of its arrival due to unacceptance that it was in the country and how this escalated bee losses in the early years.

He explored different types of pollen and the need for bees to have the right conditions to thrive. He touched on different crop rotations explaining that the hive needs to be in the right condition for maximum yield for example with oil seed rape the bees should not be able to swarm and shouldn't be artificially swarmed while at the site. They should be left for three days after the yield to allow their tempers to calm down before shaking them off the frames to collect the honey – this is to stop crystallization taking place preventing extraction!

It was obvious from the talk that Richard still very much enjoys his bee-keeping and he still participates in various bee surveys within the county.

By Jess Lee

A BIG THANK YOU!

Thanks to Jon Gubb for all his hard work on the committee as Buzzette editor; for hosting summer BBQs and helping out at events as needed over many years! Hopefully we will continue to see you at the club in the future.

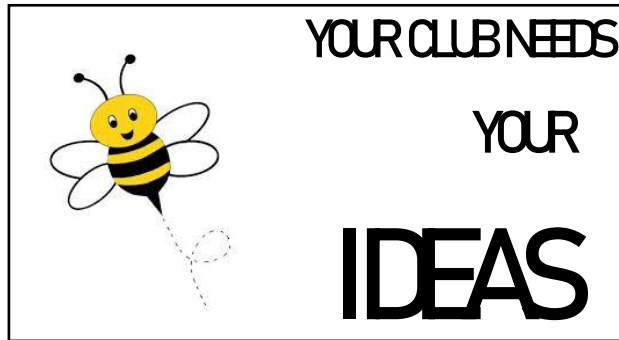
Bulk Buying Scheme

In the **December Buzzette** you will find the order form for the sale of Foundation (25% discount) and Frames at good prices – orders in by Friday 3rd January 2020 orders collected 19th February (Club Branch Meeting)

Derek Evans

Bulk Buying Coordinator





We need an idea/theme for next year's display. Something that catches people's attention/interest. IT DOES NOT MATTER how stupid it may seem at first, we can probably develop it into

SOMETHING AMAZING!!

PLEASE communicate your idea to Derek Evans or Malcolm Crook via www.tivertonbeekeepers.org.uk or by any other method (?)

OR Come to – Our first meeting on Thursday 5th December 7pm at the Half Way House, Willand to develop an idea. All welcome!

What methods work best for you in the field of bee-keeping? Send in your articles and let's have a discussion – This month Malcolm Crook raises the options for feeding your bees!

I have always liked to keep things interesting by learning about other bee keeping methods and ways to streamline my work. I try to think about the pros and cons of any development in the craft.

The Miller feeder was one investment that has allowed me to feed my colonies more quickly, and to produce stronger hives for the winter months.



I believe that the Miller feeder gives access to many more bees at one time due to the access point in the centre, opposed to the Ashforth feeder which has access to one end of the English feeder which has a round access in the centre of the feeder. I can make one trip usually to the out apiarys and the job is done!

I would be interested to hear of other members items that may save them work.
Articles to be sent on a temporary basis to secretary@tivertonbeekeepers.uk