



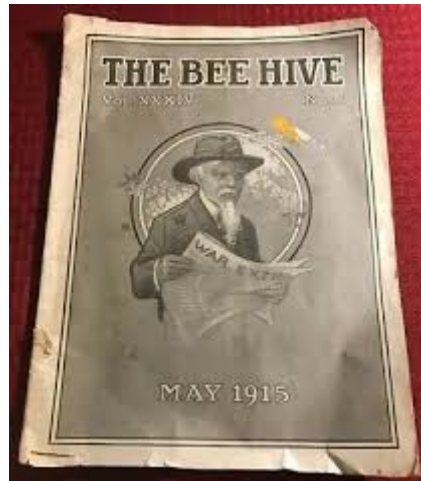
THE TIVVY BUZZETTE

The Newsletter of Tiverton Beekeepers – October 2022

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

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From the Editor



In the absence of a Chair or Vice Chair it falls to me to give you all an update on the club. Following on from our last committee meeting in September there is no one who has put themselves forward for these positions. Unfortunately there is also a need after the AGM in November for a Treasurer and some one to take over from Gavin as our lead on Asian Hornet. My fear is that like the piece of art above, Tiverton Beekeepers Club could be relegated to history c2022. So please consider putting yourself forward.

On a positive note the club is in a healthy position financially. We have around 100 members and beginners signed up to start their courses. An improvers course is also planned and there are speakers lined up for the autumn and winter general meetings which are monthly at Uplowman village Hall. See below.

We had a very interesting talk from Jason Wallis on the 21st September on Urban beekeeping. Jason manages 4 hives on the rooftop above what was Debenhams in Princesshay Exeter. He gave a very humorous and interesting talk for about an hour and then we all enjoyed a good catch up and natter about our bees over tea and biscuits. (Thank you Crooky)

You will see below that there is a general tidy up at the apiary tomorrow morning October 1st if people can spare some time.

Hilary (Sanders) Editor



Autumn dates for your calenders



Saturday October 1st

**Club Apiary tidy up and maintenance 10am to midday.
Any help would be most welcome.**

**Autumn Branch meetings at Uplowman village hall .
7.30pm -9.30pm with a break for refreshments**

Wednesday 19th October - Martin Hann and Claire Densley, Pheromone communication

South Devon Beekeepers Convention

Sunday 23 October 2022 9.45 am to 4.30 pm
The Ariel Centre, King Edward VI Community College, Totnes TQ9 5JX

See information below

See

16th November - AGM 7.30 pm Uplowman Village Hall Speaker tbc

Social evening in December tbc

South Devon Beekeepers Convention
Sunday 23 October 2022 9.45 am to 4.30 pm The Ariel Centre, King Edward VI
Community College, Totnes TQ9 5JX

A day of talking about bees, beekeepers, beehives and beekeeping history. Renew the buzz with the opportunity to chat with your fellow beekeepers over a cup of tea and browse the traders' stalls.

Derek Mitchell

Nectar, honey, efficiency and humidity He's back, the man who told us to keep our bees warm! Derek's latest investigations have found that the current design of man-made hives not only impacts the foraging range and honey making efficiency of colonies, but also creates lower humidity levels that favour Varroa.

Juliet Osborne

Bees and how we care for them – in a changing environment Honey bees, bumble bees, other pollinators and even the Asian hornet. Flight patterns – where bees go and why. Recently she has been studying the motivations behind why people “care” for bees.

Clare Densley and Martin Hann

History of Beekeeping at Buckfast Abbey Clare and Martin run the beekeeping department at Buckfast Abbey, world-famous for its bees. Who better to reveal the inside story about Brother Adam and how he built up the Abbey's reputation?

Early bird price £11 if place booked before 12 October. Pay on the door by cash, cheque or card. (Normal price £13.50.) Under-18s and full-time students free. Further details and/or to book, email s.devon.conv@gmail.com, or telephone 01803 866028.

Lunch arrangements to be finalised.

Derek Mitchell, MSc, is a physicist currently working on a PhD thesis in differences in heat transfer between natural and man-made honey bee nests at the University of Leeds.

Professor Juliet Osborne is an Applied Ecologist who has been studying the ecology of pollinators and pollination for 30 years. She led bee research at Rothamsted Research for 18 years.

The Ariel Centre is on the King Edward VI College campus in Totnes. It is five minutes' walk from the mainline railway station. There is ample free parking.

Tiverton Soroptimists



Tiverton Soroptimists are part of an International group of Women who seek to support Women and children by educating, enabling and empowering them to have a better life, particularly in a sustainable future. We raise funds to do this for different Charities. We also help to bring an understanding of their difficulties to others in our local community. Recently we had a display in the market about Trafficking.

This year we are supporting UNITE Young Carers and Bees for Development.

UNITE Young Carers supports children who care for their parents, brothers and sisters, often going without things for themselves. Some children are as young as 7 or 8. They will all have duties to do before and after school leaving them little, if any, time to socialise with others and 'just' be children. To raise funds there will be:

A BEETLE DRIVE

on October 7th

at St James Church hall, Old Road, Tiverton

at 7.00pm

Tickets £5 Adults, £2.50 children under 12, to include Light Refreshments

Tickets from Daphne 01884 255942

Derek and Jenny Evans



Around the Apiary in October

Keith Owers

Apis Mellifera on Ivy

As October arrives we can be sure that winter will not be far behind - but when?

Are your hives ready for winter? Do you have good roofs to keep the wet out and are your hive stands secure. If your hives are very exposed to the elements it is a good idea to strap the hives to the stand. If green woodpeckers are around, chicken wire wrapped around the hive can save an unwelcome attack.

The wire must be held 2" or 3" away from the hive to prevent the birds reaching through with their beaks. I have only had a hive attacked once. The great spotted woodpecker is not a problem.

Varroa treatments should be completed so now is the time to get feeding. Once the cold weather arrives and wasps are less of a problem, entrance blocks can be removed and replaced with mouse guards. I have never found it necessary to put extra insulation on the crown board. In fact I do the opposite and put match sticks under the corners of the crown board. The extra air flow reduces the risk of condensation under the crown board produced by the warm cluster of bees. Damp in a hive winter time can be a killer. My crown boards are normally closed all year.

Having secured your hives and seen them well fed it is time for a tidy up around the apiary, cut the grass and trim the hedge. You can now sit back and look forward to some interesting winter beekeeping lectures.

Keith Owers

And finally free...sugar from Tesco Cullompton

Norm aka Hubby recently took over from Malcolm (Crook) the job of collecting the broken bags of sugar that Tesco would otherwise throw out, for use by the club to feed our bees. This is all white suger, not brown which must not be fed to bees.

We live in Kentisbeare if anyone is passing by although last week we took it along to the club meeting for people to take if they wanted any and will continue to bring to meetings when we are going to be there.

If you need any, give me a call on 01884 266297/07763347311