



Newsletter

Hi Everyone

Happy New Year to you all,

Thank you, Gavin and your happy band of helpers, for organising our Christmas lunch. It's always good to meet the other halves as we don't usually get the opportunity, I'm sure everyone enjoyed themselves.

Well now it's next year so we need to check on the stores in the hives and to give the bees the winter treatment while the Queen is not laying, and the brood is down to the minimum. We also need to check that all the equipment is cleaned and ready for the new season, then read the books which you probably received for Christmas and plan what you want to do this year.

Any ideas which you may have regarding speakers and interesting topics, or things you would like to do, please let Gavin know as it is not the easiest of things to do to plan and arrange the meetings program for the coming year, remember that we like to take into account all levels of beekeeping.

Hope to see you all soon,

John

P.S We still have one or two members who have not yet paid their subscriptions for the 18 19 year. Can I please encourage all those who wish to remain members of The Association to settle soon so they do not lose the benefits of membership. An application is attached for those who may have misplaced their original form.

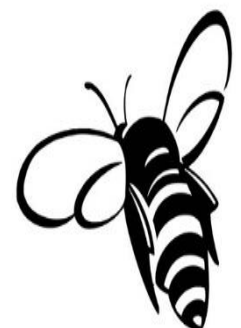
- **Chairman's Message**
- **Bee Shed News**
- **Notes from our Meetings Member**
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Bee Shed News

Closed for the Winter.

As most of you will have guessed there is no activity at the bee shed yet. The bees have got their heads down and waiting for the weather to improve and spring to come along (aren't we all). I will let you know when we open up again in one of the future newsletters.

John P



Notes from Our Meetings Member

Firstly, I would like to thank everyone who assisted in Branch Christmas Lunch the week before Christmas, it was a great success and some people stayed on until the late afternoon.

Please see below the dates for this year's meetings, up to and including April; all the meetings will be starting at 3pm on a Saturday at the Sissinghurst Parish Rooms. If the weather is an issue i.e. snow, then a decision will be made whether to cancel or not and I will ask Dave to put out an email if a meeting is cancelled, so check your inbox if we are covered in the white stuff.

The January talk is titled "Bee Keeping in UAE," our member Nick de Smith has returned after spending the last few years working in the United Arab Emirates and has kindly agreed to give us an input, unfortunately I will not be able to attend.

January 19th

"Beekeeping in the UAE" Nick de Smith

February 16th TBA

March 16th

"Showing and exhibiting honey, frames for extraction, wax and candles" John Chapman

April 20th TBA

May 18th

Outdoor meeting, spring inspection.

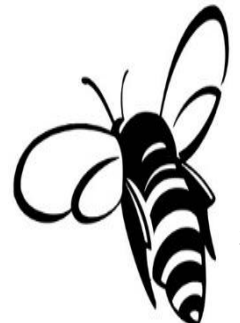
June 15th TBA

July 20th

Branch BBQ

Please contact me if you are willing to host an apiary visit, I can then schedule that in or decide to run another Bee safari in June, we have a possible host for the BBQ but still contact me if you would like to host the BBQ just in case things change.

Gavin



Fund Raising

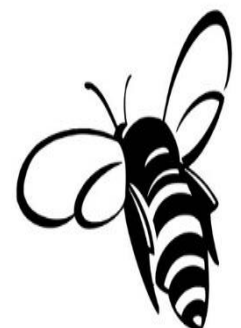
Although it is the quiet period for the bees, our members have been busy. Firstly, we have been presented with a cheque for £650 from Tractorfest. The photo below shows Heather and John accepting this kind donation from members of the Tractorfest committee.

Secondly, Juliet Mellor and Gillian Latter gave a talk to a Women's institute about Beekeeping and received a donation of £50 for their efforts They also managed to sell honey which netted a further £25,.....well done!



Thirdly, our youngest member, Ela Uebel, got into the fundraising spirit with a massive baking session. Ela baked all afternoon on Sunday and all-day Monday 16th /17th December producing a variety of Christmas biscuits, cup-cakes and cakes for sale at Homewood School, Tenterden. The photo shows just some of the delicious produce Ela baked. Kim Fletcher and our own master baker, John Priestley, also contributed cakes for the sale which took place on 18th December.

Not only did this enterprising young lady produce the goods she then went on to organise single-handedly the successful sale; the results were as follows:-



Cake sales (includes donations at school): £75.13
-additional donations from (Tracey and Penny): £9.00

Sub-total £84.13.

Parental contribution to make the numbers easy! £14.87

Total transferred to club funds - £100

This contribution will go towards equipment we bought last year and will buy again this year.

Thank you, Ela, - well done!



Finally, the only photo I've received from our Christmas Lunch showing some people.....(not sure what's going on!)

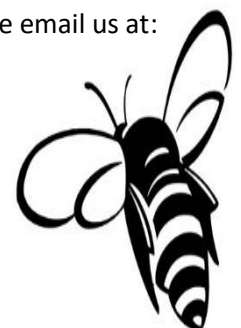


Erik has asked that the following note be circulated:

BB Wear (bee suit manufacturer) offers 10% discount to our members.

You can either order directly mentioning "Weald Beekeepers" (but pay delivery up to an order value of £250 or we might be able to consolidate orders). If you'd like to consolidate your orders for bee suits please email us at:

info@wealdbeekeepers.com



Contacts List

**Chairman and
Bee Shed Organiser:**

John Priestley
tel: 01580 714498
jjpriestley@msn.com

Vice Chair and Honey Show

Secretary: Heather Faloon
tel: 01580 291986
heather@littlehareplain.co.uk

Treasurer and Membership:

Trudie Thomas
tel: 01233 771934
accounts@trudiethomas.co.uk

Meetings Committee

Chairman: Gavin Rees
gavinrees@talktalk.net

Members Representative:

Christine Clark
chris.a.clark@btinternet.com

Branch Secretary:

Tracey Jewsbury tel:
07903 411504
traceyjewsbury@btinternet.com

Disease Control:

Michael Cooper tel:
01622 891226
Mob: 07808 612609

Website and Newsletter:

David Keepence
tel: 01622 842493
dsk@tumlbershill.co.uk

Postal submissions to:

*WBKA, East Hill House
Tumblers Hill
Sutton Valence,
Maidstone, Kent ME17 3AF*

Healthy Swarms, Healthy Bees Project

Trudie Thomas	tel: 01233 771934	<i>accounts@trudiethomas.co.uk</i>
Heather Faloon	tel: 01580 291986	<i>heather@littlehareplain.co.uk</i>
Robert Lewis	tel: 01580 291531	<i>robertlewisfarms@btconnect.com</i>
John Priestly	tel: 01580 714498	<i>jjpriestley@msn.com</i>





FOR SALE / WANTED & SERVICES OFFERED

BEE SYRUP FOR SALE

Api-invert Syrup with very high sugar content (gravity 1.25kg/Ltr.) from Belgium

from organic sugar:

2x5L containers = £14 together.

*Contact Erik at: erik.uebel@gmail.com
or **07484120586***

With a few days advance notice Erik can deliver the syrup to the Bee Shed.

FREE FRAME CLEANING

Free frame steam cleaning service offered for frames WITH foundation in exchange for the wax harvested.

*Contact Erik at:
erik.uebel@gmail.com*

*or **07484120586***

for more details.

