

WEST SUSSEX BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION



Website www.britishbee.org.uk/local/westsussex

County News – July 2010

If you wish to offer material for inclusion in future editions of "County News", please contact John Glover at glover.fleetchingshollow@googlemail.com

County Lecture – Wednesday 28th July, 7.30 pm at Pulborough Village Hall

The second County Lecture this year will cover all aspects of Honey Handling. It is intended to be of interest and help to beekeepers with all levels of experience.

The evening will cover the whole process from removing the honey from the hives to its presentation to the intended consumers, looking at the practicalities, hygiene and legal requirements and will include ideas and pointers to making the process easier, less sticky and more enjoyable and rewarding.

As well as focussing on how to ensure that your honey looks, and tastes the best it can, and how to go about achieving a good consistency for soft set honey, we will also look in detail at the production and preparation of comb honey.

The speaker is Christine Stevens, of Chichester Division, who has been keeping bees with her husband, John, for some 15 years. In recent years they have been producing and selling over half a ton of honey a year, providing honey in jars and cut comb for local shops and up-market outlets, as well as for prestige events and international clients. Having successfully showed honey, including a 'Best in Show' for Soft Set Honey at the last show she entered, Christine learned early on that 'if it was good enough to sell, it was good enough to show' and adhering to these standards has served the Stevens well throughout their beekeeping careers.

Around the Divisions

Chichester Division will meet on 21st July 7.30pm in **The Bader Arms, Tangmere**, when Brian Green, a member of the Division will talk on "Preparations for the end of the season".

Contact Emma O'Driscoll. Email emma@leo-works.co.uk

Wisborough Green Division will hold apiary meetings at Dounhurst, Skiff lane, Loxwood as follows: -

Mon 05 3 pm and 6.30 pm. **Preliminary Group only.**

Sat 03 Apiary Meeting - Beginners/Intermediate at 12:00 - Advanced at 2:30 p.m.

Fri 09 3 pm and 6.30 pm. **Preliminary Group only.**

Wed 14 Apiary meeting 6.30 p.m. - BBQ!

Thu 15 3 pm and 6.30 pm. **Preliminary Group only.**

Fri 23 3 pm and 6.30 pm. **Preliminary Group only**

Sat 24 Apiary Meeting - Beginners/Intermediate at 12:00 - Advanced at 2:30 p.m.

Please note Preliminary Groups are only available to prospective members who have made a confirmed booking.

Further details from **John Glover**

glover.fetchingshollow@gmail.com or website www.wgbka.org.uk

Worthing Division

The Division will meet **on Sunday 1st July** at Ferring Village hall to discuss Hygiene in the hive and during honey extraction.

On **Saturday 7th July**, there will be an out apiary visit to Pat Tilney – with nibbles.

Sunday 15th provides an out apiary visit dealing with the annual cycle in the apiary and on **Saturday 28th**, the meeting will concentrate on Varroa Management.

More information, contact **Sarah Rose on 01903 262446**

Beekeepers Quarterly – The Quality Quarterly Scheme

A full annual subscription to this quality publication is normally £26.00 however, members of our Association can now subscribe at a reduced rate of £16.00 – a saving of £10.00. Members will be supplied with current and future issues to their home address.

If you are already a subscriber to the publication and wish to participate in the scheme, you will be refunded by credit note or cheque by the publishers.

If you wish to participate, please forward your name, address and a cheque for £16.00 (Payable to WSBKA) and send to John Glover, Fletchings Hollow, Vicarage Hill, Loxwood, Billingshurst, West Sussex, RH14 0RG.

The scheme is subject to a minimum number of participants, which we should easily reach, but if not, your cheque will be returned.

To participate, please ensure your cheque reaches me by 25th July at the latest.

European Foul brood



Do you know that West Sussex has almost the highest percentage of inspected colonies diagnosed positive for EFB of all English counties, with the exception of Avon? The 20 cases concerned represents 6.62% of the colonies inspected which is substantially higher than our neighbours in Kent (1.61%), Hampshire (3.38%) East Sussex (4.69%) and Surrey (1.79%).

The geographic location of the cases concerned is shown below: -

West Sussex	SU71	WEST MARDEN	1	May
West Sussex	SU80	CHICHESTER	1	May
West Sussex	SZ89	SELSEY	4	May
West Sussex	TQ10	WORTHING	1	May
West Sussex	TQ11	STEYNING	4	April
West Sussex	TQ11	STEYNING	4	May
West Sussex	TQ21	HENFIELD	2	March
West Sussex	TQ21	HENFIELD	1	May
West Sussex	TQ21	HENFIELD	2	June

Very complete information on both EFB and AFB is available on the Beebase website at <https://secure.fera.defra.gov.uk/beebase/> and all members not already registered are strongly advised to do so. Amongst the other advantages of so doing, you would receive early warning of the incidence of EFB or AFB detected in an apiary close to you.

Nucs for sale

Worthing member, Luciano Scandian, has a number of 4 frame nucs available. These are on Commercial (16x10) frames. For more information, please contact Luciano on 01273 454041