

Bromley Bee News Monthly Update

Published by the Bromley Beekeepers

Welcome to the **February 2004** issue of Bromley News.



Bromley January B-B-Q Photo: 2003 st

I regret to inform members of the death of our branch bee expert Dennis Geoghegan who died suddenly this week. Dennis was a much loved beekeeper and will be missed by everybody who new him, we send our deepest condolences to his wife and family.



**Dennis
Geoghegan**

Everybody will have received their branch subscription renewal receipt from the Hon. Branch Treasurer. Keep it in a safe place as you will need to produce a copy as proof of paying the BDI insurance in the event of a foulbrood claim.

There have been problems with some members not receiving their Bee Craft. If you haven't had the February issue (Volume 86 Number 2) by the 10th of this month please contact Clive Watson, his details are on the back page of this newsletter.

I would like to remind members that we update the "programme of events page" on our website whenever details change, so keep an eye on our site. Those wishing to join our branch can also download a membership form from the downloads page. If you're not on the Bromley branch internet mailing list you can subscribe from the "newsletters page", I often post announcements and reminders about events there.

The London Beekeepers' Association have a new website, I know a number of our members also belong to it. The site has been designed by branch member Simon Wilks. You can visit it at: www.lbka.org.uk

I was impressed by the numbers that turned up for the Bromley lecture given by Norman Carreck, this was largely down to Peter Springall for sending out written invitation to all members. I'm sorry about the absence of a January branch newsletter this was largely due to work overload and not much news to report.

Bees

I made some apiary inspections in late January, checking on roofs and making sure the colonies are not stressed for any avoidable reason. Things looked promising with no unexpected losses. I went over the inside of one dead-out hive with a blow lamp, in preparation for new bees and frames in the Spring.

Steven Turner

Outside Events

Saturday 6th of March 2004 at 3pm - Medway Beekeepers Association are pleased to present there 2nd Annual Beekeepers Lecture. Dr Juliet Osbourne of Rothamsted Research will talk on "How Honey Bees and Bumble Bees utilise the available forage" At the Medway Council Offices Presentation Suite. The Medway Offices are just by Rochester Bridge, entry via Knights Road, Strood. Free parking, entry and refreshments. Sharon Resner Email: shazresner @ aol.com.

Friday 27 February 2004 The Sidcup branch of the Kent Beekeepers Association are hosting a lecture on the theme of Pyrethroids resistant Varroa and also about Integrated Pest Management. It will be presented by Mr Alan Byham, our new RBI. The time: we meet at 7.30pm, lecture starts at 8pm, Friday 27 February 2004. The venue: St Lawrence Community Centre, Hamilton Road, Sidcup, DA15 7HB. The entrance is free to all beekeepers, from Kent and beyond, all are very welcome to attend. NB: please do not park in Hamilton Road, a large public car park is right opposite St Lawrence RC Church, in the centre of Sidcup, just off Main Road, A211. R. Repka, Secretary. Ruxley Apiary Club r.repka @ btinternet.com

New Internet Beekeeping Beginners FAQ

I am a beekeeper from Leicestershire and for the last few years I have been working with new beekeepers and have wanted to write a FAQ for beginner beekeepers. If you are unfamiliar with the web, FAQ stands for Frequently Asked Questions.

With new beekeepers you find that they inevitably ask similar questions and it seemed worthwhile to write the answers to all these questions into one document. It

is very much UK focused in the Who's Who and supplier sections.

Whither it be "Where do I buy a bee suit from?" to "How do I stop me bees wanting to swarm?" or what magazines to read, sources of equipment, where to buy jars and who are CSL and CABKA. All are in there and whole lot more besides.

I hope you find it a useful resource that I will endeavour to keep up to date. Should you find any error or omissions please let me know and I will try to amend it. Or perhaps you want your local suppliers mentioned.

I hope to expand the disease section next and add more graphics soon in many areas.

Incidentally I am also the author of the Honeybee FAQ found on the BBKA and many other web sites. Best wishes & good luck for the coming season.

Graham & Annie Law Email: web.one @ ntlworld.com

http://homepage.ntlworld.com/gandboss/bee_faq.htm

Apis-UK January issue No.20 prints to 26 sides of A4. Contents: Editorial; Beekeeping news; Bee press; Articles: An investigation into natural comb (part4) Hive Shape Ian Rumsey; Local Honey and Allergies Thomas Leo Ogren; Consumption of Stores During Winter John Yates; The Cordoba Honey Show David Cramp; A Study in Blue Matt Allen; Poem of the Month Maura Murphy; Recipe: French Toast; Readers letters: Natalie Tidy, Ed Gagnon; Diary of events and more. Total D/L 370KB.

<http://www.beedata.com/apis-uk/newsletters04/apis-uk0104.htm>

Apiary News

If you have read your copy of this month's Kent Newsletter you will no doubt be looking forward to hearing from Nick Withers on the subject of Swarm Control. Unfortunately I got my wires crossed and you will have to wait until April next year to hear from him.

All is not lost and I am pleased to say that Alan Byham, our new Bee Inspector, will be talking on the subject of "Practical Approach to Varroa Control and Resistance." The full season's lecture program appears at the end of this newsletter.

Once again our New Years BBQ was a great success with over 60 people turning up. I must say the mulled wine seemed to be well received with over three gallons being consumed together with all the sausages and burgers Thank you all for your most welcome support.

Those of you who went to Strood last year for the lecture laid on by the Medway Beekeepers will be pleased to hear there will be another this year on **Saturday the 6th of March at 3:00pm**. Details are in this newsletter.

With the threat of snow in the daily reports it seems a little early to talk of such things but if you haven't got your supers ready it is time to start thinking about it. As you know, I am a great believer in getting them on before the bees get the idea that they are becoming short of space and the end of February will not be too soon to start giving them more room.

As I said, with the reports of snow I cannot see us doing much beekeeping this next meeting on the 1st of February but have heard the tea will be hot and there will be Bovril available for those who fancy a change and of course the chat never fails too warm one.

2004 Lecture Programme all at 7:30pm in the branch club house

17th February, 16th March, 20th April. See Diary Dates for details.

Peter Springall

Diary Dates

Sunday 1st February 11:45am - The branch morning apiary meeting.

Beekeeping demonstrations and hive management if the weather permits. Tea and biscuits provided.

Tuesday 17th February 7:30pm evening lecture at the branch club house - Alan Byham Practical approach to Varroa and resistance.

Sunday 7th March 11:45am - The branch morning apiary meeting.

Beekeeping demonstrations and hive management if the weather permits. Tea and biscuits provided.

Tuesday 16th March 7:30pm evening lecture at the branch club house - David Perkins There are other Bees that do not collect honey.

Tuesday 20th April 7:30pm evening lecture at the branch club house -
Peter Griffiths Making Mead.

You can read this newsletter online with more pictures from the URL:

<http://www.kentbee.com/bromley/newsletters/febbb04.htm>

For more information

Peter Springall 020-8690-3906 Mobile: 07779970104 [E-Mail](#)

Tom Winks Chairman 020-8777-3144

Clive Watson 020-8658-3786

Steven Turner (editor) 020-8698-0313 [E-Mail](#)

Visit our site www.kentbee.com/bromley

Advertisements

(free to members or £10.00 for non-members)

Bumble Gear

Give yourself a treat, or your wife, maybe a girl friend. Keep up with the Jones's or those European beekeepers. Food quality stainless steel buckets with lids **£15 each**. This is half price, no handles coming off when heated. Tel: 020-8395-6852

David Harris

Is now an approved Thorne agent able to supply all beekeeping needs at a discount. 49 Shawbrooke Road, Eltham SE9 6AL. A telephone call before calling is much appreciated 020-8850-7826 Web: www.busybusybee.demon.co.uk

FREE Six large (very heavy) concrete slabs idea for standing hives on

Collect from Steven Turner 153 Thornsbeach Road, Catford, SE6 1HB Tel: 020-8698-0313

[Back](#) | [Click here to print this page](#) Page updated March 4, 2004