



KENT BEE-KEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

County Newsletter No. 69 September 2013

EDUCATION

Further training opportunities are available at KSRC in the NDB Short Course series.

These are two day courses of lectures, workshops and practical work led by two NDB-qualified tutors. The class sizes are kept small (only 10) which allows for a high level of personalised attention. Currently they are eligible for a £100 subsidy from Fera so that the student cost for the two days is just £75; light lunches included.

Two courses are scheduled, "Brood diseases of the honey bee" on 9,10 September and "Microscopy for beekeepers" on 16,17 October.

The brood diseases course will examine all of the brood conditions, looking at the infective organism, diagnosis, the spread within and between colonies, treatments, pre-emptive measures and there will be extensive, hands-on work with diseased combs, kindly provided by the NBU. The overall aim is to provide delegates with comprehensive coverage of the brood diseases.

Microscopy for beekeepers is a course which, above all, aims to make students entirely comfortable with the use and correct set-up of the various types and styles of microscopes they are likely to encounter. There will be a little basic theory of lenses and magnification, sessions on buying and maintaining these instruments and we will also spend some time on each of the common beekeeping applications - acarine, nosema, examination of pollen and some anatomy and dissection of the honey bee. Students are encouraged to bring and use their own microscopes although high quality instruments are available at KSRC.

Full details and application forms are available from the NDB website ...

http://www.national-diploma-bees.org.uk/short_courses.htm

Bob Smith

EXAMINATION RESULTS

The following candidates have passed the BBKA General Husbandry examination:

Julian Audsley – Canterbury

Anthony Keeler - Ashford

Kent Science Resource Centre

Beekeepers @ KSRC

www.ksrcbees.org.uk

Beeswax Products Saturday, 7th September

10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. at KSRC

Jennifer Dinsmore

Registration fee: £28.00

Jennifer's course in May was oversubscribed and she has agreed to repeat the course.

Skep making Saturday, 23rd November *[fully booked]*

10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. at KSRC

Nick Mengham

Registration fee: £25.00

For further information on these courses, bookings and location details please go to www.ksrcbees.org.uk Please also note that registration fees are non-refundable.

County and other events

ASHFORD BRANCH

BEEKEEPING EXHIBITION AND HONEY SHOW

Aldington Village Hall, TN25 7DS

Saturday, 7th September 1.00 p.m.

BROMLEY AND ORPINGTON HONEY SHOW

Emmanuel Church, The Grove, West Wickham

Saturday, 28th September

See website at www.kentbee.com/bromley for details

KBKA AUTUMN LECTURE

COMMUNITY HALL, LENHAM ME17 2QT

Sunday, 17th November

Doors open 1.00 p.m. Lected starts 1.30 p.m.

David Rudland: 'Winter into Spring'

David is a Surrey beekeeper with 150 colonies and is also a Seasonal bee inspector

Michael Keith-Lucas: 'How Plants Solve Crimes'

Uses of pollen to place suspects at the scene of crime, solving honey fraud etc.

Michael is a retired academic plant scientist

Also Lesley Fancote's delicious tea and chat time

3 stalls: books, equipment, bumble bees

Tickets: £5.00 in advance and £6.00 on the door obtainable from

Kit Erhardt: kit.erhardt@doctors.org.uk 01689 860805

Clive Watson: watson30@talktalk.net 020 8658 3686

John Hendrie: bibba26@talktalk.net 01732 833894

NATIONAL HONEY SHOW

St George's College, Weybridge

Thursday, 24th to Saturday, 26th October

Show schedule and entry forms now available

Beekeeping Lectures and Workshops

www.honeyshow.co.uk e-mail: showsec@zbee.com

**54TH ANNUAL DELEGATES' MEETING
OF THE BRITISH BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION**

The Chesford Grange, Chesford Bridge,
Kenilworth CV8 2LD

Saturday, 11th January 2014

QUEEN CELLS

You will all have carried out Spring inspections to find preparations for swarming underway. The number of queen cells produced by a colony varies. They often come in neat pairs but a colony in Bromley's apiary produced a cluster of 12 cells, all charged, along with more than 10 others on adjoining frames.

