



The **A**piarist

...High Weald Beekeepers' Newsletter

Chairman's Chatter

By Malcolm Wilkie

I have just sat the BBKA module 6 on honeybee behaviour which I found a real challenge, although fascinating. Within our association we don't prepare people for modules but if interested there are always study groups one can join. I did mine with Simon Tuck of the Eastbourne division who is a master beekeeper. In the Autumn he will be preparing people for module 2 on honey and forage. Definitely worth considering.

I am meant to be purchasing a centrifuge so that members can discover what pollens their honeys contain. Watch out for emails about that. We have also had a grant for the purchase of books, many of which are hugely expensive, so we are hoping to have a good range of books for people to borrow - particularly anyone studying for modules. Rob's sessions on swarming are coming up and Mark Wilcox organised a session on anaphylaxis for us in early April.



Don't miss out. As chair of Sussex beekeepers Pete Coxon has been working hard on the Uckfield Bee Market. It's on the 17th of May. Put that in your

diary. If you want to get rid of equipment or buy second hand equipment, then it's worth going.

As a committee we have been thinking long and hard about how to work better together without everyone being involved in every decision that is made. It's early days but this seems to be working well. Of course I can't be ageist but if there is anyone out there among the membership who would consider joining the committee and is not of retirement age, it may not take up as much time as you think. Please do get in contact if you would like to contribute.



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For full calendar & details see <https://hwbka.info/event/>

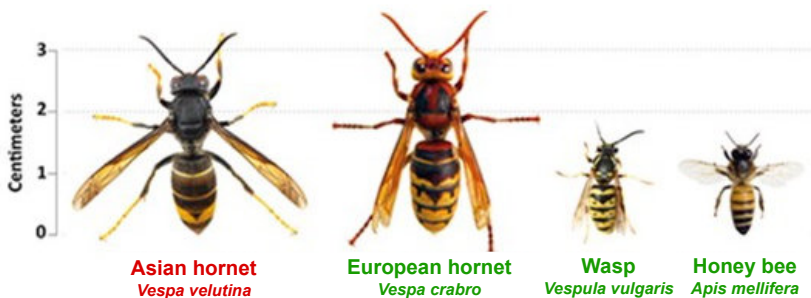
The Apiarist is a quarterly newsletter produced for members of the High Weald Beekeepers' Association.

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Contact: Paul Lindström (Editor)
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Next issue: July 2025

Think you've seen an Asian hornet? Report it!



Report through the Asian hornet Watch app or www.bit.ly/asianhornetreport

SBKA AGM and lecture 1 March 2025

By Paul Lindström

The Sussex Beekeepers AGM was fairly well attended with members representing all the five districts Brighton & Lewes, Eastbourne, East Grinstead, Hastings & Rother and High Weald. The AGM was hosted by Hastings & Rother and took place at the Mountfield Village Hall.

Peter Coxon from HWBKA is the chairman and reported on work done by the SBKA in 2024. The main event is the Bee Market, and this will be held again on the 17 May this year (see ad later in this magazine).

Regarding education and training the ambition is to continue to collaborate across the divisions, both



Peter Coxon from HWBKA is chairman of Sussex BKA and presided over the AGM.



Martin Smith, Lancashire and North West BKA made a presentation called "Managing Colony Numbers" after the SBKA AGM.

with lectures and training beginner beekeepers.

Peter Coxon reported on the work done in regard to Asian hornets (or Yellow legged hornets as they should be called now), and concluded that the situation in 2024

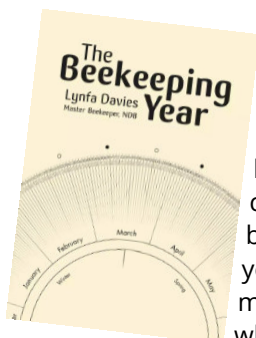
wasn't as bad as we feared it would be. But we need to continue to fight this invasion. Dan Morgan, seasonal Bee inspector and member of Eastbourne BKA, commented that early Spring we should trap queens and kill them, while later we should trap them so they can be and traced.

Both the President Jonathan Coote and Chairman Peter Coxon were supposed to step down after serving for three years, but both accepted to stay on for one more year while the search for new candidates to the posts are found.

Book review

By Paul Lindström

The Beekeeping Year by Lynfa Davies.
Publisher: Northern Bee Books, 2024
Softback/66 Pages
Cost: £10.95



Lynfa Davies has kept bees with her husband, Rob, since 2005. She has held a variety of roles with the Welsh Beekeepers' Association including General Secretary and Exam Secretary. She is currently a member of the Learning & Development Committee where she contributes to the development and delivery of courses and workshops for beekeepers across Wales.

The booklet is aimed at beginners and those in the first couple of years of their beekeeping. Lynfa Davies walks you through the beekeeping year month by month. She outlines what to expect each month and the key tasks that are required.

I myself am on my 8th year as a beekeeper and so not the main target reader of this booklet, but found it very useful to read. I started to read up on what was to be done in March, and agree with Lynfa that "Feeding is a real balancing act . . . be careful to avoid over-feeding your colonies, as this will cause growth that is too

rapid". Her comments on colony losses were also very good, listing possible causes to why the colony died. The tip to spend time making up frames for the season is a good one and made me do an inventory to make sure I was OK.

In April you need to check that the queen has room enough to lay and take action if she has not. And so Lynfa goes through all the month of the year, and repeatedly I was reminded of what I should do or be on the look out for. I can wholeheartedly recommend this book for beginners as well as for more experienced beekeepers.

Northumberland Honey Co

By Paul Lindström

Northumberland Honey Company was started in 2015 by Suzie and Luke Hutchinson. Luke had a passion for bees and had kept them since he was age 10. Suzie had just completed a PhD in molecular nutrition, and an idea was born to combine a passion for bees with Champagne and honey. Would it be possible to make champagne out of honey? It was.

Today Northumberland Honey produces a wide range of products based on beeswax and honey, as well as breeding bees. The company employs six people plus have some seasonal workers in the Summer.

I first heard of Northumberland Honey company when I asked Paul Long where he had bought his "Black bee" queens from (Paul is a member of HWBKA). I was interested in trying to re-introduce the original European dark bee, *Apis mellifera mellifera*, and move away from hybrid bees like the Buckfast bees I started out with. But I couldn't find any breeder who could provide dark bees or dark queens, until Paul Long said he had got his queens from Northumberland Co. When I looked at their web site I saw that they also produced champagne made from honey and ordered that as a start (it turned out to be delicious and I later bought more of it).



Lovely champagne made by Northumberland Honey Co using honey.



Luke and Suzie Hutchinson started Northumberland Honey Co in 2015 and breeds queens as well as producing a range of honey related products.

Somewhat later I then saw that Luke and Suzie had a stall at the National Honeyshow, and took the opportunity to talk to them about how they secure diversity and avoid in-breeding of their "Dark bee" queens. The question was triggered by me having just read *Honeybees, a natural and a less natural history* by Jacques van Alphen, where he warned that when trying to re-introduce the native "Black bee" it's important not to limit the generic input in the breeding, because that would go against how bees in the wild, through natural selection, avoid inbreeding and so increase the chances to become more resistant to disease and parasites.

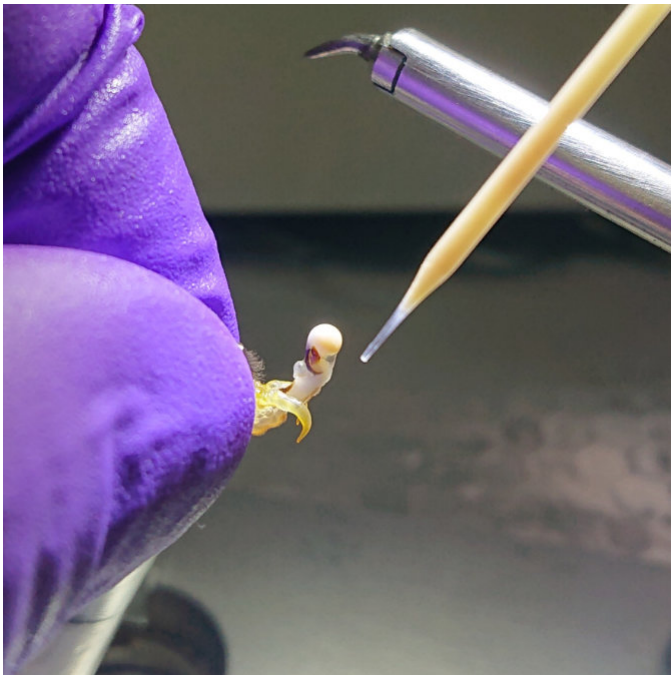
This is Luke's answer: "In a number of the queens we instrumentally inseminate we aim for hyperpolyandry (*editorial note: Hyperpolyandry is a biological term used to describe a mating system in which a female mates with multiple males*) taking semen from multiple drone hives. We also work with a couple of other black bee breeders to gather drone semen for and cross with our stock. We started mainly with our own black bee

stock, but as we grow we are increasingly working with others to increase the number of lines of black bees we can select from".

Another thing Jacques van Alphen argues in his book is that the whole idea Brother Adams had with the hybrid bees at Buckfast Abbey was faulty, and breeding should have been done using native bees instead, the *Apis mellifera mellifera*. So I asked Luke why they breed and sell Buckfast bees as well as "Dark bees"? Luke answered: "There's always an argument when beekeepers are involved! It's the same response as with the dark bees, again we have a couple of bee farmers I respect greatly who are very good at what they do and have some amazing bees, alongside select from our own colonies we have been able to select some of their best performing stock and again breed



This is one of the apiaries where Northumberland Honey Co breed Dark queens.



Instrumental insemination of Dark queens.

undoubtedly be swayed by flawed studies but ones which gain traction through social media. Why should we be keeping bees at all when there is a potential impact on other pollinators for instance? We have been frequently told we should stop what we are doing? That includes attempting to breed native bees?!

The time is well overdue for proper research to be undertaken over a

from these, usually harvesting drone semen on their site and bringing this into the lab".

I then asked Luke if there was something else he would like to add, and here is his answer: "Yes, there's always more I'd like to address or give thoughts to, but there's only ever so much space in an article! For example with the breeding work we do, we are often at the centre of debates like "treatment free" for example and asked why we do any varroa intervention, often criticised for even so much as implementing brood breaks and utilising oxalic acid. Usually based on studies that unfortunately are just not robust enough. There is a lot of work going on around subjects like this, myself and Suzie are from science backgrounds, Suzie with a PhD, so many times we see many fundamental flaws in studies and controls not controlled but nonetheless striking findings drawn from a fundamentally flawed piece of research. Mainly the issues are there is a serious lack of funding to undertake randomised controlled trials seriously, papers never get to a peer reviewed status but nonetheless are treated as though they have been! I believe beekeeping is on the precipice of public opinion which will

long time period, with proper randomisation and controls applied. Otherwise quite soon and quickly we will all be lambasted for even the thought of keeping bees! On the back of poorly thought through 'science' and fundamentally flawed evidence which is banded around as fact!"

A lot of food for thought there. There is indeed a lot of research needed on this topic - how to best reintroduce the native bee in the UK, and why that would be a good thing.

Me for one will do my bit and try locally to increase the amount of dark bees. I have ordered a Dark queen from Northumberland Honey Co to be delivered in June this year, and I'm sure Paul Long will continue to have Dark queens in his apiaries. They are slightly smaller than the hybrid bees I have had this far, but produce a good amount of honey and have a nice temperament. I will continue to favour a nice temperament in my bees, so favouring dark bees won't change that. It will be interesting to see how they fare, and I will continue to read up on what other beekeepers do to try and re-establish *Apis mellifera mellifera* in the UK.



Queen cells heading to incubator.



Queen cell examples and queens.

Age related polyethism in honeybees

By Malcom Wilkie

This is what I wrote as an answer to one of the questions for the BBKA module on honey bee behaviour. I thought it might be of general interest. The answer focuses on honeybees emerging in May-July.

Polyethism

Polyethism when applied to eusocial insects is the ability of individuals to carry out different roles within their colony. This is often age related. Worker honeybees are all morphologically the same so outwardly one cannot know except by observing them what role or task they are performing. It is known however that honey bees tend to perform certain roles at a given age and progress through different roles as they age. There are also times when they are performing several different roles within the colony.

Nurse bees

A worker bee emerging in May will tend to spend 1-3 days cleaning cells while at the same time begging for food from her nestmates. Then she will start tending and feeding brood at around 4 days old while at the same time consuming lots of pollen to keep her hypopharyngeal and mandibular glands active and in condition to produce brood food for the larvae and also for the other bees within the colony. In other words she is not just tending larvae but also exchanging and receiving food via trophallaxis with her nestmates.

As a nurse bee she will also spend part of her day as part of the Queen's retinue. This will involve feeding and grooming the Queen. The secretions from the hypopharyngeal and mandibular glands are rich in sugars and proteins and lipids and is what enables the Queen to lay all those eggs. Contact with the Queen also enables the nurse bees to spread the Queen's pheromones around the colony when they go on to exchange food with other nestmates so that all

the bees know their Queen is healthy and alive.

Nurse bees have a high level of vitellogenin within their bodies and this decreases as they age. Their hypopharyngeal and mandibular glands start to atrophy as time passes and so after a maximum of 16 days these nurse bees move on to a different temporal cast. Presumably this protein has benefited both the larvae and all the bees within the colony. Being a nurse bee does not preclude them from performing other tasks and they do cap brood, clean debris and may perform other roles as well.

Builders

When about 10 days old the wax glands become active and at age 12 are at their most productive. In May these middle aged bees may be involved in comb building if this is required by the colony and in the packing of pollen that is brought into the hive. This facility to produce wax lasts for on average 10 days maximum. This period also coincides with the production of enzymes such as invertase and glucose oxidase which are important enzymes used by the bees to process the incoming nectar and convert it to honey. So these worker bees progress from comb building to nectar ripeners. This will involve the nectar being passed from bee to bee with the nectar being repeatedly regurgitated and reingested. This is also known as tongue lashing. They will also hang up the nectar in cells to increase the surface area and fan so as to reduce its moisture content and turn it into honey. At this stage of their lives they could also be involved in ventilation and guarding.

Foraging

The final gland to develop is the sting gland. This happens at about day 18 and is when the bees start to begin to

forage for nectar and pollen. On average at this time of year a bee stays within the colony for 21 days and forages for about three weeks before dying outside in the field.

How does the behaviour of the worker differ if it emerges in late September?

In September the young bee that emerges will no doubt play her role as nurse bee but there will be a decreasing population of larvae to feed and she will consume more pollen. With the ivy flow pollen pours into the hive and with less brood to feed nestmates increase their pollen consumption. This changes the physiology of each worker bee and fat bodies build up within her abdomen.

Free* says that the fat bodies contain proteins as well as fats. This prolongs her life and is the energy source for when brood rearing starts again usually in March and April in the UK's temperate climate. This is associated with increased longevity.

Ribbands** says that these diutinus bees also have greater development of their pyhrangeal glands. In September there is usually no comb building and the bees will not have the rapid progression through the temporal castes associated with summer bees. As temperatures sink below 18 degrees bees begin to cluster and all workers will be involved in the thermoregulation of the colony.

Winston*** says that lifespans of winter bees can be 150 days or longer.

References:

* *The social organisation of honeybees* John B. Free 2017

** *The behaviour and social life of honeybees* Ronald Ribbands 2016

*** *The biology of the honeybee* Mark L. Winston 1991



A Queen measuring cells - video. Click [here](#) to play.



Comb building video. Click [here](#) to play.



A Queen and her court - video. Click [here](#) to play.



Diutinus bees ("winter bees". Diutinus is Latin for long-lasting). Click [here](#) to play video.

An update on Asian hornet/Yellow legged hornet

By Peter Coxon

Well, 2024 was not as bad as we might have expected based on the huge increase in YLH sighting in 2023.... Phew!

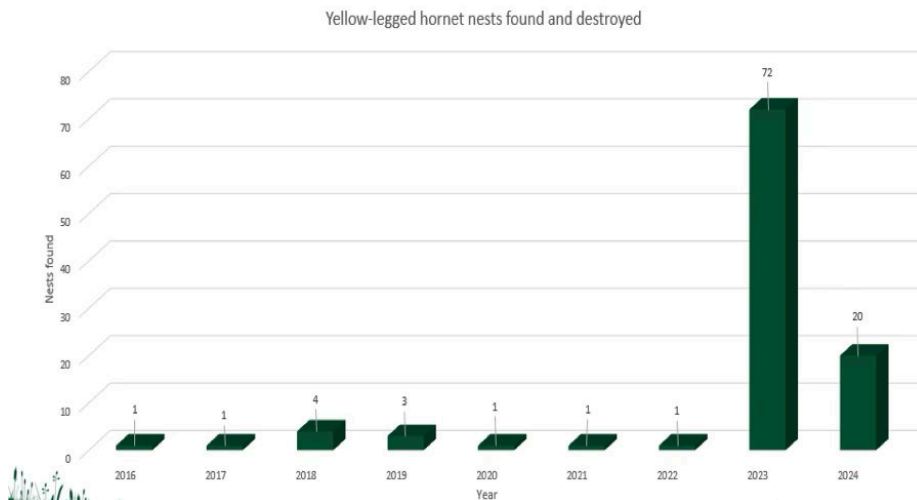
However, there's no room for complacency. In fact, although we might believe Kent to be in the front line, which it is, East Sussex is currently viewed as a high risk county too based on the fact that results from laboratory analyses have now concluded and indicate two of the nests found in 2024 (Coldred, Kent and Udimore in East Sussex) are likely to have been produced by queens released from nests found and destroyed in late 2023 (Alkham, Kent and Four Oaks/Rye in East Sussex respectively).

The SBKA AGM on the 1st of March was preceded by a presentation from Nigel Semmence of DEFRA on the latest state of play with the AH / YLH problem and was followed by a training session from Martin Smith on the new eR2 YLH monitoring App.

The app is basically a piece of mapping and logging software that runs inside the eR2 system, and which can be used on a mobile phone or PC. It is quite an impressive tool.

It looks like this on a PC (see screen grab below):

UK Nest numbers 2024



It looks very similar on a mobile phone.

Being an integral part of eR2 it can be managed centrally by the BBKA and unlike other monitoring apps it shares essential anonymised data with other bodies such as the NBU / DEFRA / APHA etc so that, for example, the Bee Inspectors can see what is going on in any area and even request AHAT Coordinators focus on particular hot spot areas to monitor.

The Coordinator App is only available by invitation to nominated YLH Coordinators registered on eR2 but they in turn can nominate Monitors who will receive a link to the Monitor version of the App. and the Monitors can take ownership of squares and monitor them.

In this way it hoped the system can be cascaded down and outwards to cover large parts of the UK.

Various Kent folk are planning to get the whole of Sussex Water involved. Others are looking at bodies from National Trust properties to allotment holders etc.

The App has help pages and a training videos for Coordinators and Monitors which can be viewed here:

[YLH Coordinator App Help Video](#)

and here (slightly shorter, ca 5 minutes):

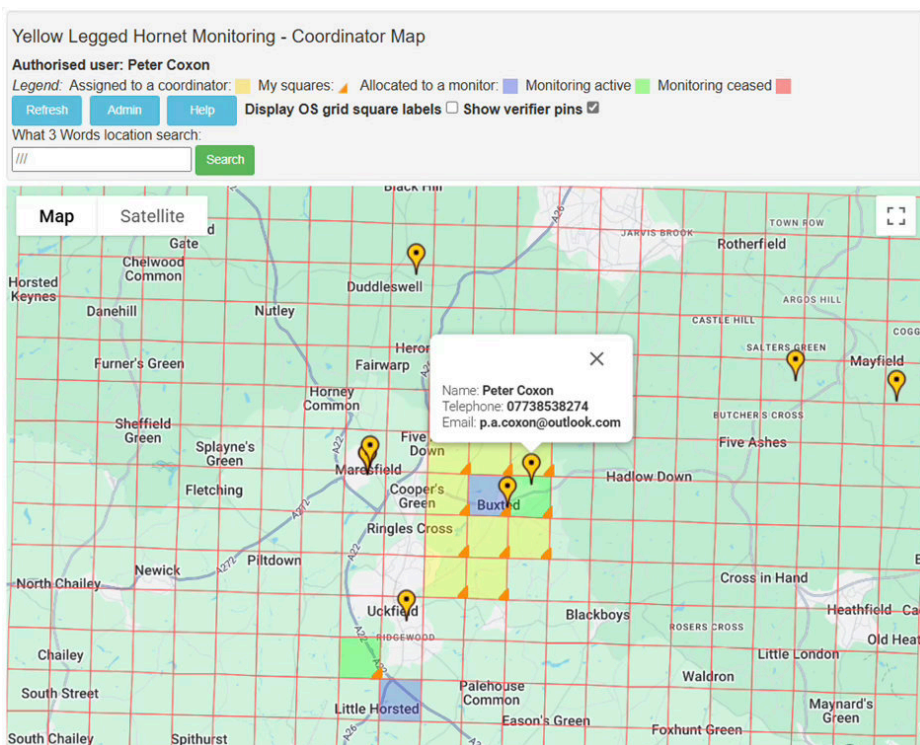
[YLH Monitor App Help Video - YouTube](#)

These videos should give you a better idea about how it works.

The challenge will be to get lots of uptake for it to be truly effective. For this to happen in High Weald we will need lots of volunteers... hint!

So, if you would be willing to be a Monitor please contact me on the.hwbka+YLAHcoordinator@gmail.com and I'll set you up.

The BBKA and NBU are in fact not keen that we plaster the whole country and low risk areas with traps for fear of the by-catch issue and ensuing criticism. However, a 'by-



The country is divided into 1km squares which can then be 'owned' and monitored for YLH activity. .

catch friendly trap' (see below to learn what is meant by this) placed outside a kitchen window for example from where it is regularly observed and from which unwanted by-catch can be released regularly could provide a valuable forewarning, and now is the time to do it to catch any Queens there may be around.

Bycatch friendly trap

So what is a 'bycatch friendly trap'? Basically a container with a chemical bait inside, a hole large enough to admit Yellow Legged Asian Hornets, typically 6-6.4mm in diameter and multiple smaller holes or slots to allow other species to escape.

There are various commercial products on the market now such as the new Veto Pharma trap available from your preferred beekeeping suppliers.

Or you can make your own following guidelines on the BBKA website – [just click on this link](#).

Or also for the more economically minded DIY enthusiast using a jam jar with suitably modified lid or one of the AHACATCH lids that we still have a stock of for the princely sum of £1.

Preferably the bait should be somewhat selective i.e. particularly appealing to YLHs and less so for other species. Commercial products like Trappit are ideal.

Liquid lures should be 'held' within an absorbent material, such as a sponge in the trap so that there is no free liquid in which insects could drown.

There are also homemade recipes available, pioneered in France and the Chanel Islands ... e.g.

Sweet Bait for Spring (Queen Trapping):

- Half a litre of dark beer

- Two tablespoons of sugar
- Mix together and use as bait.

Cider Vinegar Mix:

- Half a litre of water
- Three tablespoons of sugar
- One cup of cider vinegar
- Mix and use as bait.

Blackcurrant Cordial Mix:

- Half a litre of dark beer
- One cup of blackcurrant cordial
- Mix and use as bait.

Mint Syrup Mix:

- 350 ml of sweet white wine
- 20-30 ml of mint syrup
- Mix and use as bait.

Protein-Based Bait for Summer/Autumn:

- Mashed prawns, fish, or cat food (note: these can have a strong smell).



Summary of the latest HWBKA committee meeting

The HWBKA committee met on 12 March 2025.

We made plans for which events the HWBKA will attend this season. There are some events that we "normally" attend and those are: The SBKA *Bee Market* on 17 May, The *Withyham parish annual assembly* on 24 May, *Langton Green Village Fair* on 5 July, *Crowfest*, the *Crowborough Summer fair* on 12 July, *Wildlife Festival Day* at Ashdown Forest Centre on 26 July, *Weald On The Field* in Uckfield 9 August. Helpers to those events are much needed and very welcome. Contact Sandy Infield if you want to join the team on one or several of those events, at email: the.hwbka+events@gmail.com.

Steve Adams was formally voted to be our new interim treasurer, replacing Phil Edwards.

The date for our AGM was set to Sunday 23 November.

A protocol/guideline for ZOOM meetings has been drafted. We have

renewed our subscription to ZOOM since this will continue to be an important platform for online meetings and lectures.

It was discussed what communication means was best suited for committee work, and if apps like WhatsApp and Slack could improve the efficiency. But the conclusion was that email will continue to be the main communication of discussions. But we agreed to try and limit the email traffic and not always respond "to all" if we make comments, but rather address those who are engaged in that particular topic. We will continue to use Google Drive for joint documents.

Steve Adams was tasked with removing older signatures registered with our bank and only keep 4 of current committee members on that list.

We will modify the amount on our savings account versus the Instant Access account. Steve will investigate

if there are better alternatives to get a higher interest.

AHAT/YLH situation reported by Peter Coxon. See the article on page 7 for more info.

An updated list of the books in the HWBKA library will be published soon, and more books added to the library. We will create an online form where members can sign up to loan books.

Mark Wilcox volunteered to take on the responsibility to manage the observation hive and might take on this task after some training. The observation hive is important to HWBKA since it's always popular at events.

The next HWBKA Committee meeting (date to be confirmed)

– please submit issues to discuss to our Honorary Secretary Simon Bishop on email

the.hwbka+secretary@gmail.com



Come and learn all about the fascinating world of bees at the

Sussex Beekeepers' Association

Bee Market

SATURDAY 17TH MAY 2025 - 10 AM TO 4.30 PM

Uckfield College

Downsview Crescent, Uckfield TN22 3DJ

EVERYONE WELCOME - ADMISSION £2

Talks on honey bees and beekeeping:

'The Honeybee Solution to Varroa in the South East'
by Steve Riley

'How To Take Up Beekeeping'
by Malcolm Wilkie

Bees, plants and honey on sale

Equipment auction

Trade stands

Interactive Children's Bee Workshop

Refreshments and snacks available

Workshops, advice and much more!



https://sbka.info/?page_id=159

Dates for your calendar

Saturday April 12th @ 11:30am-1pm
Session 3 – Swarm control
Navigating your way out of disaster.
Venue: Horsted Green Park Apiary.
(*New beekeepers only*).

Saturday April 26th 9.30am-12.30pm
Session 4 – Introduction to the bees
Opening a hive for real.
Venue: Horsted Green Park Apiary
(*New beekeepers only*).

Wednesday April 30th @ 7.00pm
Bee Banter
Venue: Blue Anchor, Crowborough

Saturday May 10th 10am-12pm
Session 5a – Swarm control for real

Saturday May 10th 1pm-4pm
Session 5b – Building your hive
Venue: Horsted Green Park Apiary

Saturday 17th May
Sussex Beekeepers Bee Market
Venue: Uckfield Community College.

Saturday 24th May
The Withyham parish annual assembly
Venue: Groombridge village hall

Wednesday May 28th @ 7.00pm
Bee Banter
Venue: Function room, Rose & Crown Pub, Mayfield.

Saturday 22th June
HWBKA Annual Summer Picnic
Venue: Helen Searle's garden. Sign up on the HWBKA web site.

Wednesday June 25th @ 7.00pm
Bee Banter
Venue: Blue Anchor, Crowborough

Saturday June 28th
Session 6 – Bee Safari (open to all) am or pm depending on your group leader. A visit to three apiaries. Please express interest on HWBK Events page.

Saturday July 5th
Langton Green Village Fair
Venue: Langton Green

Saturday July 12th (open to all) 11am-1pm
Session 7 Varroa control options
Venue: Horsted Green Park Apiary

Saturday July 12th
Crowfest – Crowborough Summer Fair
Venue: Eridge Field, Goldsmiths Recreation ground, Crowborough

Tuesday July 22
BBKA Basic Assessment
Venue: Horsted Green Park Apiary
Contact Peter Halford to sign up: the.hwbka+membership@gmail.com.

Saturday July 26th 10am-4pm)
Wildlife Festival Day
Venue: Ashdown Forest Centre

Wednesday July 30th @ 7.00pm
Bee Banter
Venue: Function room, Rose & Crown Pub, Mayfield.

Saturday August 2nd 10am-3pm
Session 8 – Honey extraction
Venue: Horsted Green Park Apiary (open to all).

Saturday August 9th
Weald On the Field, Uckfield
Luxford Field, Uckfield

Wednesday August 27th @ 7.00pm
Bee Banter
Venue: Blue Anchor, Crowborough

Saturday 13th September 10am-12pm
Session 9 – Preparing hives for Winter
Venue: Horsted Green Park Apiary (open to all).

Wednesday September 24th @ 7.00pm
Bee Banter
Venue: Function room, Rose & Crown Pub, Mayfield.

23^d, 24th & 25th October
National Honey Show
Venue: Sandown Park, Esher, Surrey

Wednesday October 29th @ 7.00pm
Bee Banter
Venue: Blue Anchor, Crowborough

Sunday 23rd November
HWBKA AGM and Honeyshow
Venue: Five Ashes Village Hall

Wednesday November 26th @ 7.00pm
Bee Banter
Venue: Function room, Rose & Crown Pub, Mayfield.

Saturday 3rd December
Talk by David Evans – Rational Varroa Control (ZOOM)
Sign up on the HWBKA web site

Saturday 13th December
HWBKA Christmas Do
Venue: Sandy Infields place, Black Shed Studios, Fairwarp

More events might be listed [on our web site](#) – check it regularly for the latest updates. 

Borrow a book from the HWBKA library

HWBKA has many books that members can borrow at no cost. An updated list will soon be on the HWBKA web site at <https://hwbka.info/education/hwbka-library/>

Our library is held by Helen Chivers – please email her at the.hwbka+lecturecoordinator@gmail.com if you would like to borrow one or more books

HWBKA Committee 2024-2025

President: Keith Obbard (the.hwbka+president@gmail.com)

Chairman: Malcolm Wilkie (the.hwbka+chair@gmail.com)

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Apiary Manager: Peter Coxon

Events Secretary: Sandy Infield (the.hwbka+events@gmail.com)

Lecture Coordinator: Helen Chivers (the.hwbka+lecturecoordinator@gmail.com)

Membership Secretary: Peter Halford (the.hwbka+membership@gmail.com)

Training & Education Manager: Malcolm Wilkie (the.hwbka+training@gmail.com)

AHAT Coordinator: Peter Coxon (the.hwbka+ahat@gmail.com)

Acting web master: Peter Coxon (the.hwbka+webmaster@gmail.com)

Committee members: Roxanne Gould and Mark Wilcox

Other useful contacts – National Bee Unit inspectors:

Local Bee Inspectors:

Daniel Morgan (Mobile: 07500 95 43 90, email daniel.morgan@apha.gov.uk)

Helen Hadley (Mobile: 07871 320 316, email: helen.hadley@apha.gov.uk)

For more Bee Inspectors see the National Bee Unit [web site](#).

Rent a honey extractor from HWBKA



The newer SAF Natura Tangential 4-frame extractor

The association has three extractors available for rent. One newer SAF NATURA tangential 4-frames extractor, one older tangential 3/6-frames extractor (pictured right). We also have a smaller 3-frames tangential, kindly donated by Don Bastick.

You can rent them two days at a time. The newer 4-frame tangential cost £10 for two days (and a £20 deposit)

The older 6- and 3-frames tangential extractors cost £5 for two days (and a £15 deposit).

Included in the rent is a honey bucket, a sieve and an uncapping fork, if required + instructions for use.

Note that the deposit will be forfeit if returned late, damaged or dirty. Severe damage/repairs will be charged at cost.

The 3-frames extractor is stored by Paul Lindström in Southover (outside Burwash).

The older 6-frames tangential and the 4-frame SAF Natura are stored by Lynne Curtis at Lynne's Organic Farm (just outside Crowborough).

All bookings and inquiries through Paul, see contact info below. Deposit by cash but final payment paid directly into the HWBKA bank account (same as when paying your membership fee etc).



The older tangential 6-frame extractor



For info, availability and booking call 01435-88 35 65 (preferred). Or call or text mobile 07833-088 766.

Or email: the.hwbka+apiarist@gmail.com • Address: The Clock Tower, Southover, Spring Lane, Burwash, TN19 7JB