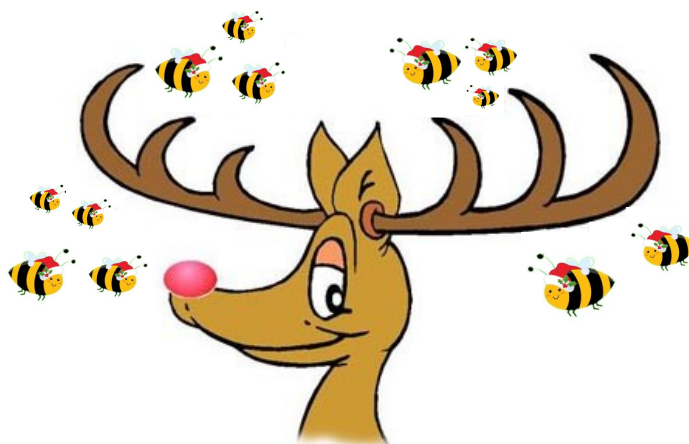
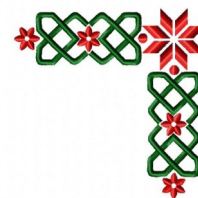




# Happy Christmas



**W**inter is now truly with us and hopefully we have done everything we can for our bees to ensure their survival this winter. We now await the spring with excitement, expectation and anticipation.

**A**s we look back on the last beekeeping year I hope your bees have been healthy, good tempered and productive.

**A Very Happy Christmas** to all WSBKA members and to those reading this newsletter from outside the county. Many thanks to all who have contributed this year.

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# WSBKA Annual Convention

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Lodge Hill, Pulborough will again be the venue for our Annual Convention on **Saturday 24th February** next year.

Final touches are being made to the programme and, as always, we have a great mix of lectures and seminars to look forward to. Please book the date in your diary NOW!

The main hall speakers are Gerry Collins, Dr Gerry Brierley and Professor Glenn Jeffery.



Gerry Collins is a Master Beekeeper and has served beekeeping in various capacities at every level including many years as BBKA Correspondence Course organiser and on the BBKA Examinations Board as well as being a BBKA examiner at all levels. He is much in demand to deliver presentations at beekeeping Conventions and Association meetings throughout the UK. His main talk is entitled ***'What's going on in my Hive'*** and he will also be running a seminar on ***'The Curse of the Wax Moth'***.

Dr Gerry Brierley will be speaking on ***'Medicinal Apitherapy'*** featuring the use of bee venom for many chronic symptoms and diseases such as Lyme disease.

Professor Glenn Jeffery is Professor of Neuroscience at UCL's Institute of Ophthalmology. He will be speaking on ***'Use of Light to reverse effects of Neonicotinoids on Bees'***. His research team has discovered that treating bees with light therapy can counteract the harmful effects of neonicotinoid pesticides and improve the survival rates of poisoned bees.

Additional seminars for delegates to choose from include two from Clare Waring, long-time Editor of Bee Craft and co-author of beekeeping books *'The Bee Manual'* and *'Keeping Bees'*. Her seminars are ***'Up Close and Dangerous'*** (photographing bees and other insects) and ***'Big Bees, Little Bees & Bees that don't Sting'***.

Two also from Jean Mozley - ***'Requeening & Queen Introduction'*** and ***'Swarm Control'***. Jean has kept bees for 38 years and breeds and sells queens and nucs in Kent. We are also delighted that Sandra Gray, Regional Bee Inspector for South East England will be joining us and presenting a seminar on ***'Bee Diseases – Identification & Control'***.

Refreshments and a simple lunch will be included and there will be many opportunities to meet up with fellow beekeepers from around the county and beyond. Paynes will bring a range of bee equipment to sell and there will also be plenty of opportunities to stock up for the season ahead.

Further details will soon be available on the WSBKA website:

[www.westsussexbeekeepers.org.uk/convention.html](http://www.westsussexbeekeepers.org.uk/convention.html) and will be sent out with the Booking Form in next month's newsletter.



## Around the Divisions

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All Members are welcome to attend any Divisional meeting, but please advise the organiser if you plan to attend.

### Central Sussex Division

Details from Debbie Rowland: [chairman@centralsussexbka.org.uk](mailto:chairman@centralsussexbka.org.uk) or website: [www.centralsussexbka.org.uk](http://www.centralsussexbka.org.uk)

### Chichester Division

**Tuesday 12th December** - *Honey Tasting & Christmas Social* at the Fishbourne Centre, Blackboy Lane, Fishbourne, Chichester, PO18 8BE at 7:30pm.

Details from: [secretary@chichesterbeekeepers.co.uk](mailto:secretary@chichesterbeekeepers.co.uk) or website: [www.chichesterbeekeepers.co.uk](http://www.chichesterbeekeepers.co.uk)

***'Share your Division's  
activities with readers of the  
County News'***

### Wisborough Green Division

Details from Sue Elliott: [secretary@wgbka.org.uk](mailto:secretary@wgbka.org.uk) or website: [www.wgbka.org.uk](http://www.wgbka.org.uk)

### Worthing Division

**Thursday 14th December** - Monthly meeting at the Ferring Village Hall, Ferring Street, Ferring, BN12 5JP at 7:30pm.

Further details from Len Lewis: [secretary@worthingbeekeepers.org.uk](mailto:secretary@worthingbeekeepers.org.uk) or the Division's website: [www.worthingbeekeepers.org.uk](http://www.worthingbeekeepers.org.uk)

### ... and Dates for your 2018 Diary

**Friday 9th - Sunday 11th February 2018** - *'Making Good Use Of Your Beeswax'* with Jim Ryan. Hampers Green Community Centre, North Street, Petworth, GU28 9NL. Hosted by Wisborough Green BKA. See article in last month's Newsletter.

**Saturday 17th - Sunday 18th February 2018** - *BIBBA Conference at The Eden Project*, Bodelva, Cornwall, PL24 2SG. See article in last month's Newsletter.

**Saturday 24th February 2018** - *WSBKA Annual Convention*. Lodge Hill Centre, Watersfield, Pulborough, RH20 1LZ. Details in this Newsletter and available on the website shortly.



We are now on facebook so if you would like your events featured please send details to the Editor.



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## In Memoriam

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Christine Stevens is very sad to inform our beekeeping friends of the passing of her beloved husband, John, former President and Life Member of Chichester Beekeepers.

John's funeral will take place at Chichester Crematorium on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 2 pm.

## Melvyn's Missive

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*Chairman, Melvyn Essen, writes for the County News*

At last the cold weather (well it was cold when I wrote this, it's probably summer-like when you all read this!) will be keeping the bees clustered. Hopefully the queens have stopped laying with no brood present, helping to make any Oxalic Acid treatment more successful.

Your committee has been busy on your behalf preparing our delegate, Roger Patterson, for BBKA's ADM in January — you can see the ADM papers on the BBKA's website, for a good read! Also our convention team has been busy behind the scenes preparing for the 2018 West Sussex BKA Convention on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February. I don't know how the team does it but it seems to get better and better. I'm still hearing good comments about last year's final lecture regarding forensic science with Dr Michael Keith-Lucas.

Don't forget if you have any unwanted equipment give it a clean-up now and it will be ready for the April auction, when your bees (and no doubt other things) will be requiring your attention.

The recent BIFFA day was very well attended, proving that beekeepers would like to improve their bees or they like to hear Roger speak!

Have a **Happy Christmas**

**Melvyn**

[chairman@westsussexbeekeepers.org.uk](mailto:chairman@westsussexbeekeepers.org.uk)



## BBKA Update

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To read about more good news and events written by Margaret Wilson, vice-chair, please click on the links below:

[https://gallery.mailchimp.com/231962cc46de2c60ff68e8a12/files/bbc3ad3b-ff70-4091-a324-c5038c740ff3/4\\_Positive\\_Thinking\\_7\\_11\\_17\\_SC.01.pdf](https://gallery.mailchimp.com/231962cc46de2c60ff68e8a12/files/bbc3ad3b-ff70-4091-a324-c5038c740ff3/4_Positive_Thinking_7_11_17_SC.01.pdf)

<http://mailchi.mp/448dbe66a433/gm-242017-vice-chairs-positive-thinking-december-news-193789>



## Can You Help?

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I am a student at Hadlow College in Kent, studying for a degree in BSc (Hons) Landscape Management. I have to obtain original data for my dissertation and have written a survey to do so. The results of this survey will form an important part of my final dissertation project which will itself contribute to my final marks. The purpose of this survey is to find out about the public's interest, knowledge and perceptions of bees.

Although I am looking to get a good representation of the general public, I would also like some responses from people that know their bees so I have an extra level of comparison in the results. It is anonymous and should only take around five minutes. It is available here: [www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/bee-survey](http://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/bee-survey)

## ***Annie Barnes***

We are two students at Queen Mary University of London. We are working on a research project about apiary monitoring and management under the supervision of Dr. Requena. As part of this project, we have prepared an online survey, which you can find in the following link:

<https://www.wjx.cn/jq/18422651.aspx>.

The purpose of this survey is to better understand how beekeepers currently manage their apiaries and how technology can facilitate apiary management.

We would greatly appreciate if you could take a few minutes to complete it.

Thank you for your help.



***Jianing and Qiwen***



## Canine Partners' Appeal for Stamps



Members have made a significant contribution to this charity in previous years by donating used stamps from Christmas cards. This generosity has helped to train assistance dogs for the disabled at their training centre in Heyshott near Midhurst.

So if you can continue to help this charity please save the stamps from Christmas cards (and other correspondence). All kinds of stamps are welcome, on or off paper. You just need to leave no more than a 5mm single thickness border around them, and the perforations should not be damaged. Send to: Canine Partners' Stamp Appeal, PO Box 638, Fareham, Hampshire, PO14 9JJ.

This is an ongoing appeal and more details are available on the charity's website - [www.caninepartners.org.uk](http://www.caninepartners.org.uk)



**We're on the web:**  
[www.westsussexbeekeepers.org.uk](http://www.westsussexbeekeepers.org.uk)

### MEMBERS' COUNTY NEWSLETTER

Thanks to all this month's contributors. If you don't have access to the internet and want further details of anything in this newsletter, please contact the Editor & County Secretary. Likewise, if you would like to contribute to future newsletters please send articles and photographs to:

Graham Elliott, Editor & County Secretary, no later than the 20th of the preceding month.



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Previous newsletters from the last 12 months  
are available on the website.

