

Volume 7, Issue 7

October 2017



MEMBERS' COUNTY NEWSLETTER

# West Sussex Beekeepers' Association

## Forthcoming Local Events



**Thursday 26th - Saturday 28th  
October**

**Sandown Park, Esher, KT10 9RT**

**86th National Honey Show**

Details in last month's  
newsletter or on the NHS  
website:

[www.honeyshow.co.uk](http://www.honeyshow.co.uk)

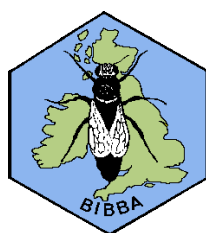
**Sunday 19th  
November**

**Rudgwick Village  
Hall, RH12 3JJ**

**Bee Improvement  
For All**

Details in the August Newsletter and on the  
BIBBA website:

<http://bibba.com/event/bee-improvement-bifa-day/>



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## Asian Hornet in Devon

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European Hornet



Asian Hornet

The National Bee Unit has confirmed a sighting of the Asian Hornet at an apiary near Woolacombe in Devon. Work to identify, destroy and remove any nests is already underway.

It is understood that there may have been a further sighting in Plymouth.

Everyone is asked to be vigilant and in the case of a suspected sighting to contact:  
[alert\\_nonnative@ceh.ac.uk](mailto:alert_nonnative@ceh.ac.uk). For further details visit:

[www.nonnativespecies.org/alerts/index.cfm?id=4](http://www.nonnativespecies.org/alerts/index.cfm?id=4)

## BBKA Update

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Margaret Wilson, Vice Chair of the Trustees has written a letter to members updating on the various projects and initiatives currently being undertaken by the Association. This includes training, the spring convention, insurance, finance and changes in the Stoneleigh office.

The letter to members is too large to reproduce here but can be viewed in full on the BBKA's website in the Members' Area. [www.bbka.org.uk](http://www.bbka.org.uk)



## Honey Survey

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This is the 10th year that BBKA has carried out a honey survey and the 2017 survey is open now but closes on **9th October**. The October edition of BBKA News contains the paper survey but it can be completed online at: [www.snapsurveys.com/wh//s.asp?k=150565176605](http://www.snapsurveys.com/wh//s.asp?k=150565176605)

This is an important record of the honey crop in the UK and your contribution is very much appreciated. It is conducted according to the MRS Code of Conduct which guarantees your anonymity and there are eleven gifts, including Sophie Allport Bee Mugs, BBKA Spring Convention Tickets, Burts Bees Gift Sets available in a prize draw for all those who

take part.

Please record your honey crop as on 30th September this year, and submit your response online by **Friday 6th October**. Results will be published in BBKA News later in the year or you can request a copy by e-mail from: [bbka@bbka.org.uk](mailto:bbka@bbka.org.uk).

## 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

**Saturday 7th, 14th, 21st & 28th October** - Apiary meetings and Buzz Club at Pease Pottage starting at 9:30am.

Further 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 10th October** - Meeting at the Fishbourne Centre, Blackboy Lane, Fishbourne, Chichester, PO18 8B at 7:30pm.

Further details from Nick Brown:

[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

**Saturday 7th October** - Meeting at the teaching apiary from 1:30pm.

Further 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

**Sunday 1st & Wednesday 25th October** - Meetings at the teaching apiary from 2pm.

**Thursday 12th October** - Monthly Meeting at Ferring Village Hall from 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 Diary

**Thursday 26th - Saturday 28th October** - 86th National Honey Show. Sandown Park Racecourse, Esher, Surrey, KT10 9RT. See last month's newsletter or view the Show's website: [www.honeyshow.co.uk/](http://www.honeyshow.co.uk/).

**Sunday 19th November** - BIBBA 'Bee Improvement for All'. Rudgwick Village Hall, Bucks Green, RH12 3JJ. See the August newsletter for full details or website:

<http://bibba.com/event/bee-improvement-bifa-day/>

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



# Melvyn's Missive



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

I hope your bees are taking advantage of the good weather—well, until today that is—and the prolific Ivy flowering this year. I still find it incredible that they can attach so much pollen to their hind legs with the help of a little nectar and modified hairs!

I imagine most of you have treated or are planning to treat your bees for *Varroa* when they are near or completely broodless. Wouldn't it be great if we didn't have to treat for *Varroa* and our bees could live with light infestations. Well as you know WSBKA are helping to fund the ReVive\* project and this is aimed at identifying European honeybee populations that can persist without *Varroa* control. We look forward to a general report next year when all the data has been analysed and to see how the project has helped in understanding *Varroa* and the DWV variants.



I hope to see some of you on Friday at the National Honey Show 26<sup>th</sup>—28<sup>th</sup> October at Sandown Park Racecourse and don't forget that on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> some of the lectures are aimed at beginners and will be hosted by WSBKA's Roger and Daisy.

\*Rolling out the Evolution of resistance to *Varroa* and DWV.

**Melvyn**

[chairman@westsussexbeekeepers.org.uk](mailto:chairman@westsussexbeekeepers.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 or our facebook page please send articles and photographs to:

Graham Elliott, Editor & County Secretary, *no later than the 20th of the preceding month.*  
[secretary@westsussexbeekeepers.org.uk](mailto:secretary@westsussexbeekeepers.org.uk)



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

