



Canterbury Beekeepers

Branch of the
KENT BEE-KEEPERS' ASSOCIATION
www.cantbees.freeuk.com

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NEWSLETTER

October 2011

NEXT MEETING – Wed 5th Oct - Bees and flowers - An illustrated talk by Adrian Davis

Some musings about the co-existence of bees and flowers, with plenty of illustrations

7.30 -9.30 Whitefriars Conference room Canterbury.

To make our winter meetings more accessible in bad weather we are using the facilities of Whitefriars conference room in their management suite.

Parking will be free in the multi-storey car park so collect your ticket as normal and this will be processed during the meeting. Park on the 1st floor on the left and take the corridor down to the management suite at the bottom of the corridor on the left.

By car Set Sat Nav post code to CT1 2TF

Go around the ring road and at the roundabout opposite the Police Station turn through the city walls into Watling Street. Go past the bus station on your right and the Whitefriars multi-storey car park is straight ahead and right at the mini-roundabout. If coming from the south go down the Old Dover rd and straight across the roundabout through the city walls.

By foot

Between the Bus Station and Whitefriars center there is an alleyway between Boots and Next. Here there is an entrance to the car park. Go to the first floor by lift and turn left out of the lift through double doors. The management suite is 20 yds along this corridor.

Notes on the Bee Tour on Sept 3rd with Michael Cooper our seasonal bee inspector.

This was a great success visiting six beekeepers and very well hosted for lunch and teas at the end. I believe all involved found it worthwhile although not as many came as I expected. Various problems were dealt with during the tour and one case of severe Varroa infestation was seen. Feedback from Michael at the end of the tour and at a subsequent meeting with him was very favourable. He felt the standards of beekeeping seen on the tour were the best that he had seen on such tours. Well done. Julian

APIARY NOTES



The warm spell has resulted in a great deal of activity for the bees. In many cases bees have been covering the front of the hive but this is not a problem. You may find that the hives are being packed with honey meaning that little if any additional feeding is necessary. I would still check the stores thoroughly. Go though each frame and concentrate on counting the amount of stores. 5lb for a full National brood frame and roughly 7lb for Nat 14x12, Commercial and Langstroth brood and if a full colony make up to 40 lb of stores with strong sugar syrup.

Julian

Brogdale Cider festival and the future Apple Festival

We had a stall at the festival and I gave two talks each day which were well attended. We had great support from a team of members who dealt with the queries and honey sales and did much to enlighten the public about bees and beekeeping which is the main purpose of the days. On October the 22 & 23rd we will be attending the major Apple Festival of the year for Brogdale so if you would like to help especially if you have honey ready for sale volunteer to help man the stall. It has been suggested we set up a small working party to help run future events in the Canterbury area so if you'd like to help out do let me know. Julian

Bee Inspections in Kent from Beebase the NBU site

Last month I reported on the American Foul Brood outbreak near us. This was the first outbreak in the South East for 4 years. In Sept there was a second occurrence affecting 2 colonies in the same area 10km square TQ95, the Witering & Eastling area north of Charing. Our member near that area was notified on both occasions by the inspectors but did not find any problems with his bees. An incidence of European Foul Brood was also found in TR04 just to the north east of Ashford. It is an advantage to all beekeepers to ensure they register on Beebase so that they can be notified of problems nearby and see the results of any checks on their own bees.

Dover Honey Show

Each year members exhibit at the Dover Honey Show and are usually very successful. If you'd like to show honey or take part in any of the classes let me know. We can easily arrange to get your exhibits to the show and I attach the programme. If you'd like advice you can ask at the next meeting or contact one of the committee. The main criteria are clean honey. No haze in clear honey. Matched jars including mould marks on jars.

National Honey Show

27th – 29th October 2011 International classes & beekeepers' lecture convention

St George's College, Weybridge, Surrey KT15 2QS. Always a worthwhile visit. Just off the M25.

Kent Beekeepers Autumn Lectures Sunday Nov 5th 2pm doors open 1pm

Lenham Community centre – a superb modern millennium hall off the A20. ME17 2QT

I attach details of the Nov Lecture with two excellent National Speakers – Wally Shaw from Anglesey and Tim Sparks. This is always a good event – the bookstall provides a wide range of books and the speakers are always interesting and thought provoking. Tickets available at our next meetings.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wed 5 th Oct	Whitefriars – Adrian Davis -Bees and Flowers
Wed 2 nd Nov	Canterbury AGM and short films. - Whitefriars
Sun 6 th Nov	Kent BKA Lectures Wally Shaw – and Tim Sparks, Bookstall and equipment stands at Lenham, beekeepers tea and a free lottery. Tickets £5 in advance / £6 on the day.