



CANTERBURY BEEKEEPERS



A branch of Kent Beekeepers Association

EDITOR'S NOTES

This week I have to start with news that exotic pests have been reported again. The first sighting of the Asian Hornet on UK mainland in 2019, in New Milton, Hants (APHA news [here](#)) was reported on 3rd July. There is nothing (yet) to link this to a discovery in Hampshire in 2018, but we should remain highly vigilant, and report via the Asian Hornet watch app – free to download from the [Apple](#) and [Android](#) app stores.

Earlier in the same week, the Italian authorities notified the EU Commission of the reoccurrence of SHB in Sicily in the Siracusa area. This is where SHB was found previously. It only takes a careless importer of hives, packages or queens to bring the SHB to our shores. Get your bees locally!

With the main summer flow in full swing at the moment, often folks are stretched to the limit with their equipment. Don't forget that in a good flow, bees will quickly fill any spaces where frames "should" be, so even if you haven't got foundation, put empty frames in, or even just a topbar. Honeycomb sells surprisingly well at our

events at Brogdale and Whitefriars, so if you do get some wild honeycomb, don't discard it, but store in an airtight box in the freezer - to make sure there are no wax moth larvae, *Braula coeca* or other hive wildlife scuttling about in the comb.

Apiary Meeting

Honey Extraction and Preparation

**Debbie's
apiary/home**

Stanford

Sat 29th July

2.00-4.00pm

Details on p2

This week I will be sending out a reminder about the Brogdale Cherry Festival to recruit people to help on the stall, or supply honey. Whilst the English cherries haven't been quite as good as some years, Brogdale always put on a spectacular display of varieties. Our favourite cherry purveyor

(on the A2 layby near Kent Motorcycles) has even been selling European imports this week.

If you are new to producing honey, or perhaps want to learn how to present honey at a Honey Show in the autumn, our meeting at the end of the month will show you how to extract from frames, and also the various "enhancements" that are required to produce show-winning honey. We are being hosted by Debbie Burton, and it should be a fun afternoon. I will need some helpers to take off the supers at Bekesbourne too.

Adrian

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The easiest way to contact us is via email using the links above, but you can also use the contacts page on the website.

Contact [Newsletter Editor](#) to contribute articles

JULY 2019

DATES FOR DIARY: yearbook at <http://canterburybeekeepers.org.uk/calendar/cbka-list/>

2019

July 5-7

Sun July 21

Sat July 27

Sat Aug 24

Sat Aug 31

Sat Sep 7

Wed Sep 25

Mon Sep 30

Wed Oct 2

Oct 19-20

Bees and Honey stand (KBKA) at the Kent Show, Detling Showground

Meet the public – Cherry Festival at Brogdale

Apiary Meeting – Honey extraction and preparation for shows at Debbie's place, Stanford North

Complete applications for BBKA Microscopy Certificate (23/24 Nov 2019)

Meet the public – BeeDay at Whitefriars

Apiary Meeting – Bekesbourne. Winter preparations

East Kent Ploughing Match, Shepherdswell

Complete applications to sit BBKA module exams (9 Nov 2019)

Indoor branch meeting

Meet the public – Apple Festival at Brogdale

You can get our calendar, either as a google calendar (cantbees@gmail.com), or for other programmes using this URL: <https://calendar.google.com/calendar/ical/cantbees%40gmail.com/public/basic.ics>

APIARY MEETING

At Debbie Burton's apiary

Saturday 27 July, 2-4pm

Waverley, Stanford North TN25 6DL

This meeting will feature honey extraction and preparation of honey for show. We can probably squeeze a quick visit to look at some of Debbie's bees too.

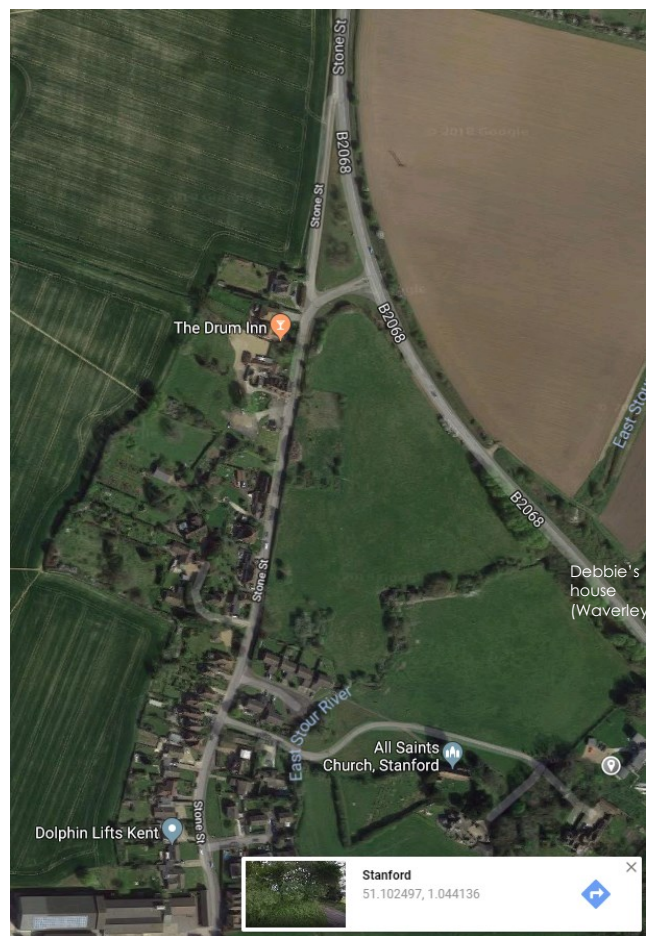
Depending on numbers who attend, we might do this in two or three groups, so please do let Adrian know (by [email](mailto:cantbees@gmail.com) or text on 07816 975286) if you plan to join us (no need to confirm non-attendance).

As ever, usual apiary hygiene rules apply, so bring clean bee-suits, and no leather gloves, only disposable or washable Marigold types. If you need to borrow a suit, please let Adrian know beforehand.

If you want to participate in honey extraction, clean clothes are required; kitchen coveralls are advised, as you will get sticky! We are preparing a foodstuff, so good hygiene standards need to be followed by all.

Getting there

Debbie offers the following instructions for those not using SatNav devices. Leave the main B2086 for Stanford North (from Canterbury direction take right turn before J11 of M20). Go past The Drum pub on right and take second turn left into small lane, up past church and Waverley is at end, slightly left. Park on lawn along left hedge if needed.





BRANCH NEWS

Brogdale

The Strawberry Fair on 16th June was unseasonably cool and damp, and so the footfall was less than we might have hoped. Nevertheless, we sold £266 worth of honey and other products. Thanks to Maggie, Karen, Rosie, Joan, David, Dave, Heather, Josephine, Siobhan, Debbie, Norman, Julian and Anne for helping out in various ways.



The summer season at Brogdale continues with the Cherry Festival on Sunday 21 July. Again we'll be looking for volunteers to help talk about bees and beekeeping – all levels of experience are welcome to help out for a few hours. Watch out for an email, or express your interest [here](#).

Bee Safari

The weather was kinder to us at our Bee Safari on 29 June – in fact, the whole of Kent seemed to have descended onto the beaches of Broadstairs and Margate, so we were waiting for Kay to battle her way through Planet Thanet traffic! We visited 5 apiaries between Ramsgate and Faversham, and



whilst Kay was able to point out sacbrood in almost every apiary, all the bees were in good fettle.

Star attractions of the day were the Chinese warriors, the BeeHaus (an insulated version of the Dartington long hive), both at Martin's apiary, and the friendliest Wiemaraner dog one is likely to meet, with Linda and Tim (sorry, no pic of the dog, only the bees! Linda is in pink)



Keith's apiary in Grove got the prize for best walk from house to beehive, and also trickiest place to find without a SatNav. Richard's apiary got the prize for simulation of a narrowboat.



Special mention must go to Em and Si's honey flapjack and homemade elderflower and orange squash – well worth making it to the end of the safari to enjoy.

I will post more of the pictures to our Facebook page ([here](#))



Positive Thinking No. 22 and 23

June and July, 2019



Mission Statement:

- To further and promote the craft of beekeeping
- To advance the education of the public in the importance of bees in the environment.

The unified voice of British Beekeeping

The timings of newsletters from Margaret Wilson didn't align with Canterbury's June newsletter, and as our July newsletter is coming a week later than normal, there's a bumper edition of two. To save your inbox, I've summarized the newsletter topics here; click the BBKA logo to see each newsletter

June (no.22)

- International Meeting of Young Beekeepers
- New staff at Head Office
- National Honey Show
- Charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) application
- School Beepack
- eR2 (BBKA database)
- Husbandry assessments



JUNE 2019 P.T.

July (no. 23)

- RHS Show Chatsworth
- Virtual bee experience
- Fundraising
- BBKA accounts and management
- Great Yorkshire Show
- Small hive beetle



JULY 2019 P.T.