

Previous News & Events

2018 Meetings

December

🎅 Our Christmas Party will be held in the Boat Inn in Oughterard on Sunday 9th December at 2pm. There will be a three-course lunch costing €25 per person. Partners are welcome. Please send me a short email if you wish to attend, secretary.connemarabeekeepers@gmail.com as we need to advise the hotel of numbers. 🎅

On Sunday 13th January, 2019 we will have a Lecture on Recognizing and Identifying Honey Bee Diseases given by Dr Mary Coffey. For anyone who doesn't know her, Mary Coffey is Chief Scientist at the Bee Diagnostic Service provided by Teagasc and a leading researcher on Honey Bee Diseases. We are delighted that she has agreed to come and talk to us. It promises to be a very interesting lecture!

Please remember that if you haven't already renewed your membership subscription, it is now due. Membership rates remain €70 for Individuals and €100 for Family Membership. Subscriptions can be paid at the Christmas Party or by sending a cheque to the Treasurer, Rod Teck at Seamist House, Clifden, Co. Galway.

November

Annual General Meeting was held on Sunday 11th November.

We are always looking for new members to join the Committee and help with the running of the Association. There is a lot of work in managing the three Association apiaries and in order to maintain the apiaries and develop other projects we need additional help. You don't need to be a very experienced beekeeper, in fact getting involved and helping-out in the apiaries is a very good way to learn! So, if anyone would like to put their name forward for election to the Committee, please let me know. Ken Figgis, Secretary.

We have been asked by the Federation to collect membership subscriptions for 2019 by mid-December, to ensure that there is no interruption in receiving your copies of "An Beachaire". Please download a membership form here: (<http://connemarabeekeepers.ie/member-18.html>) and have it completed before you come to the meeting. It would greatly help to speed-up the administration of your membership if you pay your subscription for 2019 at the AGM. (Subscriptions rates will remain the same for the coming year.)

Committee Meeting took place at Peacocke's Hotel, Maam Cross on Thursday 1st November, 8.00pm

Registration for Beekeepers?

Brendan Murray, the Secretary of FIBKA has recently contacted all Associations seeking to answer whether or not there is a need for us as beekeepers to register with the Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine (DAFM).

"Our insurance has no explicit reference to registration and only has the generic requirement that we comply with the current legislation. This has, of course, always been the case, just like any other



insurance. Beekeepers who only produce honey for their own use or do not produce honey at all are completely exempt from this registration requirement – it simply does not apply. Our insurance covers this group of beekeepers.

On the other hand, Beekeepers with a larger number of hives who produce commercial levels of honey are definitely primary producers of honey and, as such, are required to register.

We have been trying to arrange a meeting with DAFM and it looks like this will happen on 8th December. Until we have the complete response from DAFM and an agreement as to what registration is necessary, please hold off with returning the updated registration. We will probably have complete information in a few weeks so it's not an undue delay."

Philip McCabe R.I.P.

Born: July 17th, 1945

Died: October 20th, 2018



Philip McCabe, who has died suddenly after a short illness, was the best known and most respected expert in beekeeping in Ireland. A third generation beekeeper, he was a passionate promoter of beekeeping through his courses at the Beekeeping Summer School in Gormanston College, his talks at Bloom, the Ploughing Championships and in schools and latterly through his work as president of Apimondia, the international federation of beekeeper associations.

SSE Páirc Gaoithe Community Fund 2018

Cumann Beachairí Chonamara were delighted to be awarded €1,000 by the SSE Páirc Gaoithe Community Fund 2018, towards our Community Education Programme. Two of our representatives attended the presentation on the 15th of August in Oughterard Community Centre to accept the cheque on our behalf. We are most grateful for this. Míle buíochas!

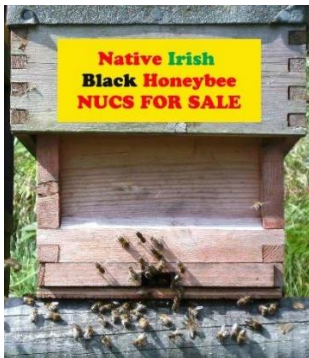


SSE and Coillte have awarded over €210,000 to community groups close to Galway Wind Park through the new Local Community Fund. The inaugural Local Fund presentation took place at the

Oughterard Community Centre on Wednesday 15 August, with a total of 74 local groups receiving funding for projects focused on energy efficiency; safety; environmental sustainability; social sustainability; recreation and tourism; and education and skills development.

Cumann Beachairí Chonamara (Connemara Beekeepers Association) received a grant towards the funding of our community education programme, as well as new equipment for its lecturers. Frank Conroy, Assistant Secretary at Cumann Beachairí Chonamara, said: "The funding from Galway Wind Park will allow us to roll-out training to our members and increase awareness in the wider community, as well as enabling us to purchase new equipment for our lecturers. It will ultimately help our ambition of furthering the craft of beekeeping across the Connemara region, and the conservation of the native Dark Bee."

Prime quality Native Connemara Black Bees for Sale



We are pleased to announce that we now have Nucs from our Association apiaries for sale for the special price of €180.

These Nucs contain young queens bred in Connemara from prime quality Native Black Bees (*Apis Mellifera Mellifera*).

(Please note that €180 is for the bees only. You can choose between transferring the bees and brood into your own hive or purchasing the nuc box for an additional €20.)

For enquiries, you may contact me, Ken Figgis, by telephone at 095 41092.

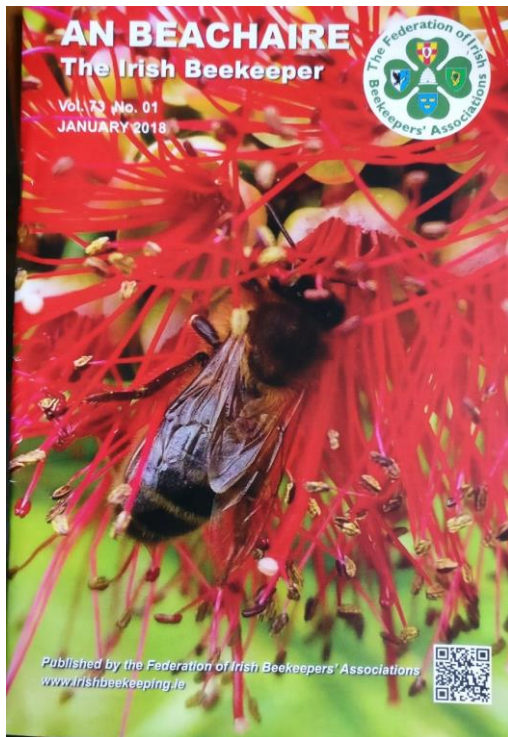
Lock up your Bees?

August 2018



Sean Devaney of Galway County Council emailed our group regarding Treatment of Invasive Plant Species along the N59.

"We are about to undertake the 3rd year of treatment of Invasive Plants along the N59 in County Galway. The treatment is planned for next week (w/c 20/08/2018) but it will likely be the Wednesday or Thursday before it starts."



An Beachaire now available online

Dermot O Flaherty the manager of An Beachaire has announced that all current 2018 issues of An Beachaire magazine are now also available in digital format on FIBKA's new website: irishbeekeeping.ie

If members register on the new website they will be able to read this year's issues of the magazine which will be made available online in this manner for registered members.

APRIL LECTURE on NOSEMA, by Helen Mooney

Our Monthly Lecture for Members took place on Sunday 8th April, at 2.00pm in the Boat Inn, Oughterard.

Helen Mooney from Ballina BKA, who has studied bee genetics and diseases, gave an excellent Lecture and Demonstration on how to check for Nosema in your bees using the microscope. We had the opportunity of preparing slides from a sample of dead bees and then checking these for Nosema. Helen was focusing on Nosema in particular because of its prevalence in our bees this year. She advised on the necessary procedures to cut down on its spread in our apiaries.

Scéalta spéisiúla ón gCósta Thiar

Na Beacha - Paddy Ó Fiannachta

Tá bliain eile curtha tharainn againn, an tríú bliain fliuch i ndiaidh a chéile, aimsir nach raibh feiliúnach do dhaoine, d'ainmhí ná go na beacha. Níor tháinig aon tseachtain tirim as a chéile ó dheireadh Bealtaine ach mar sin fhéin rinne na beacha a ndícheall agus bhí toradh maith go leor ar a gcuid oibre agus tuairim is 30 punt meala i ngach coirceog. An scéal is fearr faoi na beacha i mbliana, dár liomsa, ná go bhfuil an bheach dúchasach, Apis Mellifera Mellifera, ag leathnú amach ar fud Chonamara ar fad agus i mbliana iad tagtha chomh fada le Muighinis i gCarna, Leitir Móir, An Trá Bháin agus Baile Chonaola agus tá scéalta maithe ag teacht ar ais ó na beachairí a bhfuil siad acu. Taispeánann sé seo dúinn gur fiú go mór an phóir seo a choinneal ag imeacht agus is fiú go mór an t-iarracht a dhéanamh iad a scaipe ar fud na tíre ar fad. Tá an-mholadh á fháil ag an mhill freisin agus tuairiscí dearfacha ag teacht ar ais chugainn. Tá an-tóir ar an mhill fraoigh, an ghnáth mhill agus ar an mhill ón eidhneán agus daoine ag rá go bhfuil sé ag déanamh anmhaitheas go deo dhóib ó thaobh sláinte de agus é ag cuidiú le daoine a bhfuil fadhbanna scamhóga, boilg, craicinn agus go leor rudaí

eile acu. Tá ard-mholadh ag dul do Choiste Chumann Beachairí Chonamara a raibh bliain an-ghnóthach acu agus an t-uafás oibre déanta acu. Is láidre muid nuair a sheasann muid ar fad le chéile agus go mba fada buan an cumann.



Seachtain na gCrann i TG4
Cúla4

[Éist le Paidí Ó Fiannachta agus Jill Uí Dhunbhig ag caint ar Raidió na Gaeltachta annseo:](#)