

# WEST SUSSEX BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

**Annual Convention**  
**Saturday 25th February 2017**

**At Lodge Hill Centre, Watersfield, Pulborough – 9.30am to 4.30pm**

The West Sussex Beekeepers' Association is pleased to invite beekeepers and those interested in bees and beekeeping to the WSBKA Annual Convention. The event is designed to suit beekeepers of all standards. As well as the main lectures, the seminars offer a choice of more specialised topics. We hope you will be joining us.

## **Main Lectures**

An update on the DWV story – Professor Steve Martin

Bees, Pesticides & Politics – Professor Dave Goulson

Use of Pollen in Forensic Science – Dr Michael Keith Lucas

## **In addition there is a choice of seminars**

### **Seminar 1** (You can attend one of these)

- 1) Chemical Communication in the Beehive – Professor Steve Martin
- 2) Swarm control – Daisy Day
- 3) Trading Standards, Honey and Hive Products – Jo Walden

### **Seminar 2** (You can attend one of these)

- 4) Saving our Bumblebees – Professor Dave Goulson
- 5) Successful Comb Change – Tom Moore
- 6) Remote Hive Monitoring – Arnia – Wilma Markellie

*Diane Steele, Regional Bee Inspector, South East England, is planning to attend.*

*For all your beekeeping needs, **Paynes Southdown Bee Farms** will also be present at the Convention*

Advance booking per person, WSBKA members £20  
Members of other Associations and non-members £25  
On the day if space allows £25

Full details and booking form are on the following pages.  
In addition they are on the WSBKA website [www.westsussexbeekeepers.org.uk](http://www.westsussexbeekeepers.org.uk)  
or contact Gordon Allan on 01798 343470 or email [wsbkaconvention@gmail.com](mailto:wsbkaconvention@gmail.com)

## **West Sussex Beekeepers' Association Annual Convention – 25th February 2017**

### **Details of the Day and Speakers' Profiles**

The West Sussex Beekeepers' Annual Convention has again attracted top speakers to cover a wide range of topics throughout the day. As well as the main lectures, you can attend two additional seminars on different subjects. Please indicate your choices in order of preference as spaces on some seminars will be limited. We will, of course, do our very best to meet your individual wishes. **Please apply as soon as possible to have the best chance of attending your preferred seminars.** We hope there will be plenty to interest you.

#### **Professor Stephen Martin**

Stephen's first studies in biology included bird-ringing and collecting insects in the UK and China. He completed his BSc at Bangor University followed by an MSc from Shinshu University in Japan, where he studied beetles and the local hornets. This led onto a PhD when he developed his interest in social insects, furthered when he returned to Japan to conduct research into the dynamics of hornets on a small sub-tropical island. On returning to the UK he worked for the National Bee Unit for seven years, researching the pests and pathogens of honeybees and became internationally renowned for his work on the Varroa mite. He then spent 12 years at Sheffield University studying chemical recognition systems in social insects and continuing his work into honeybee pathogens, mainly in Hawaii. In 2012 he moved to the University of Salford where he now leads a dedicated research team focussed on understanding Varroa and the link to Deformed Wing Virus.

Stephen has written many publications on his research subjects and is currently involved with the BDI project that is funding research into the relationship between Honey Bees, Deformed Wing Virus and the Varroa mite. His main talk is entitled 'An update on the DWV Story' when he will be sharing progress so far. He will also be running a seminar on 'Chemical Communication in the Beehive'.

#### **Professor Dave Goulson**

Dave was brought up in rural Shropshire, where he developed an early obsession with wildlife. He received his Bachelor's degree in biology from Oxford University, followed by a doctorate on butterfly ecology at Oxford Brookes University. Subsequently, he lectured in biology for 11 years at the University of Southampton, and it was there that he began to study bumblebees in earnest. He subsequently moved to Stirling University in 2006, and then to Sussex in 2013. He has published more than 260 scientific articles on the ecology and conservation of bumblebees and other insects. Dave is the author of 'Bumblebees; Their Behaviour, Ecology and Conservation', published in 2010 by Oxford University Press, and of the Sunday Times bestseller 'A Sting in the Tale', a popular science book about bumble bees, published in 2013 by Jonathan Cape, and now translated into ten languages. This was followed by 'A Buzz in the Meadow' in 2014. Dave founded the Bumblebee Conservation Trust in 2006, a charity which has grown to 9,000 members. He was the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council's Social Innovator of the Year in 2010, was given the Zoological Society of London's Marsh Award for Conservation Biology in 2013, was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh in 2013, and given the British Ecological Society Public Engagement Award in 2014. In 2015 he was named number 8 in BBC Wildlife Magazine's list of the top 50 most influential people in conservation. He lives in East Sussex with his wife and their three boys.

Dave's talk will be on 'Bees, Pesticides & Politics' with a focus on neonicotinoids and he will also be running a seminar on 'Saving Our Bumblebees'.

#### **Dr Michael Keith Lucas**

Dr Michael Keith-Lucas is an expert plant scientist with an extensive knowledge of pollination of plants. Now retired from his position as Senior Tutor in Plant Sciences at the University of Reading, Michael is busy as President of Reading and District Gardeners Association, Vice-Chairman of Reading and District Natural History Society and of Reading Tree Wardens.

Michael's research interests have been in pollen in vegetation history, archaeology, allergies, forensic science and plant ecology, including tropical rainforest ecology. Most of his pollen work has been on Neolithic and Bronze Age sites, looking at forest clearance and the creation of man-made communities. Michael will be sharing with us its fascinating use in criminal investigations. In his talk on 'The Use of Pollen in Forensic Science' he will give examples of how it has been used in solving crimes and hunting down criminals.

#### **Daisy Day**

Daisy is a horticulturist, has a degree in Field Biology and has been keeping bees since 2006. In that time she has acquired a tremendous amount of experience with her own and others' bees. She is a member of Wisborough Green Beekeepers Association and a valued demonstrator and teacher at their Training Apiary. Daisy has also completed her BBKA exams and in 2012 became a Master Beekeeper.

Daisy currently has 25 colonies with one hive located in the local primary school. Every week during term time, 6 children assist her with inspecting the bees. So far, over 60 children have experienced handling bees and she is justifiably very proud of the project. One student has completed her Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Scheme with Daisy this year all based around bees.

Daisy also gives a number of very useful talks throughout the region and can usually be seen at the annual South of England Show, explaining the ins and outs of bees to the visiting public. Her seminar topic is one that is close to any beekeeper's heart, 'Swarm Control' and will provide much practical help to beekeepers old and new.

### **Jo Walden**

Jo has been a Trading Standards Officer for over 25 years. She joined West Sussex County Council in 2005 and is the Lead Officer for Food and Animal Feed, based in Horsham.

Trading Standards Officers cover the whole county, but Jo spends most of her time in the Chichester and Midhurst districts. The food work done by Trading Standards covers farm to fork, crop-growing on a single field to the food served at Michelin-starred restaurants and everything in-between. Officers inspect and advise on all aspects of food labelling and concentrate particularly on food manufacturers. They also visit farmers, growers, retailers and caterers, take lots of food samples for analysis and investigate consumer complaints.

In her working life Jo is really passionate about helping businesses who want 'to get it right', and about protecting the consumer from food fraud. At home she is a 'foodie' who loves home cooking and always has at least two jars of honey in the cupboard! Jo's seminar is entitled 'Trading Standards, Honey and Hive Products' where she will be giving guidance on the legislative requirements and sharing some anecdotal experiences.

### **Tom Moore**

Tom attended beekeeping classes with the renowned Ted Hooper in 1971 but started actual beekeeping 10 years ago in 2006. He currently keeps between 20 and 30 colonies in partnership with Gordon Allan. He is a horticultural expert, qualified beekeeper and examiner for the BBKA Basic exam and well known to us in the West Sussex Beekeepers' Association. He has held many posts in Wisborough Green Division and in the West Sussex BKA and has represented us at national beekeeping forums. Tom continues to make a huge contribution to the support and education of beekeepers throughout our region. His seminar is entitled 'Successful Comb Change' – a very important process for the welfare of our bees.

### **Arnia**

Arnia's state of the art remote hive monitoring system was designed by beekeepers for beekeepers. They have been monitoring bee hives since 2011 and their monitors are currently installed in hundreds of hives in 25 different countries.

Arnia is unique in combining hive acoustics monitoring with other parameters such as brood temperature, humidity, hive weight and apiary weather conditions. They can monitor and interpret the sound of a bee colony to assess colony behaviour, strength and health. The hive data can be accessed remotely from any internet enabled device in any web browser. The seminar is titled 'Remote Hive Monitoring - Listening to Bees' and Arnia's representative, Wilma Markellie, will be explaining how it works and the benefits to the beekeeper and the bees.

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The Convention is also a great opportunity to stock up on equipment and reading matter for the coming season. As usual, Paynes Southdown Bee Farms will bring a tremendous range of equipment and books.

The Convention Fee for West Sussex Beekeepers Association Members is £20 for the whole day if paid in advance (received by Monday 20th February 2017) and £25 for non-members, or on the day (subject to space being available - choice of seminars may be limited). Tea and coffee during the day are included and also a simple lunch.

Venue details: Lodge Hill Centre, Watersfield, Near Pulborough, West Sussex RH20 1LZ

Should you require further details, please contact Gordon Allan on 01798 343470 or email [wsbkaconvention@gmail.com](mailto:wsbkaconvention@gmail.com) or see the website [www.westsussexbeekeepers.org.uk](http://www.westsussexbeekeepers.org.uk).

The following Booking Form can be used for up to two delegates. This can be completed and returned with your cheque (made payable to 'WSBKA') to Gordon Allan as soon as possible. Alternatively, you can book and receive confirmation and map by email with payment made by bank transfer (see Booking below). If you wish to receive confirmation and map by post, a stamped addressed envelope should be sent with your booking.

# West Sussex Beekeepers' Association Annual Convention – 25th February 2017

To: Gordon Allan, Stone House, High Street, Petworth, West Sussex GU28 0AU

Please book me ..... places for the WSBKA Convention to be held on Saturday 25th February 2017 at a cost of £ ..... (Ticket price is £20 each for WSBKA members and £25 each for non-WSBKA members.)

You can either enclose a cheque made payable to 'WSBKA' along with this form **OR** you can make payment by Bank Transfer and return this registration form by email. For Bank Transfer, the account name is "West Sussex Beekeepers Association", Sort Code: 40-28-23, Account Number: 11457721. Please put the first delegate's surname in the Reference Field.

In both cases, you will receive your confirmation number(s) and a map by email. If you do not have email or require a physical ticket/map, **a stamped addressed envelope should be enclosed.**

## DELEGATE 1

Name ..... (please print) Telephone No .....

Address .....

.....

Post Code ..... Email .....

I am a member of ..... Beekeepers' Association (if any).

Tick this box if you attended the Beginners' training course at any Division of the WSBKA in 2016 and indicate which Division.  Division .....

### Seminars - In case your first choice is over-subscribed, please indicate your order of preference

**Seminar 1** (You can attend one of these)

- 1) Chemical Communication in the Beehive – Professor Steve Martin
- 2) Swarm control – Daisy Day
- 3) Trading Standards, Honey and Hive Products – Jo Walden

#### Preference

- First / Second / Third
- First / Second / Third
- First / Second / Third

**Seminar 2** (You can attend one of these)

- 4) Saving our Bumblebees – Professor Dave Goulson
- 5) Successful Comb Change – Tom Moore
- 6) Remote Hive Monitoring – Arnia – Wilma Markellie

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## DELEGATE 2

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