



GDPR

We have all been inundated with requests from companies and organisations requesting our agreement in the use of our personal data they have collected from us in the past.



This is to ensure compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation which came into law on 25th May.

The aims of the regulation is to make it easier for us to understand how our data is being used and to give us greater control over its use.

WSBKA undertakes to collect and use personal data in compliance with the GDPR and use this data for the administration of our membership, the communication of information and the organisation of events, training courses, exams and assessments.

Your Executive Committee is reviewing the guidelines recently published by the BBKA and our draft Privacy Policy is being written and will be available shortly. We understand we are behind in this venture but have been waiting for and evaluating the available information to ensure full compliance with GDPR.

Inside this issue:

<i>BBKA News</i>	2
<i>Hygiene Depot</i>	2
<i>LASI Workshops</i>	2 & 3
<i>Melvyn's Missive</i>	3
<i>Around the Divisions</i>	4
<i>Dates For Your Diary</i>	4
<i>South of England Show</i>	5
<i>Bees for Sale</i>	5
<i>West Sussex BKA website</i>	5

BBKA News

The June edition of BBKA News will be winging its way to you shortly and enclosed within will be your membership card. So don't dispose of the wrapper without retrieving it first!

The 'Positive Thinking' newsletter includes articles on extending the lease on the apiary at Stoneleigh, the new Communications Trustee and the latest from the Shows Committee. And much more.

The full newsletter can be accessed at <https://mailchi.mp/b2f6455e5309/gm-2018-12-positive-thinking?e=39ce99bedd>



Nitrile Gloves from Hygiene Depot



Heavy duty nitrile gloves are available from the Hygiene Depot www.hygienedepot.co.uk. One of our Divisions has recently evaluated them and has been impressed.

Please note that WSBKA does not endorse any product supplied by Hygiene Depot but passes this on for your information.

LASI Workshop - *Integrated Varroa Management*

A workshop to help beekeepers manage honeybee pests and diseases. Workshop dates: Friday 7th and Saturday the 8th September.

Varroa mites are a serious problem to beekeepers. They harm honeybees directly and also spread virus diseases that can kill the whole colony. Until recently *Varroa* could be controlled using Apistan strips. However, *Varroa* are now resistant to Apistan. There are many alternative treatments but how effective are they, and how can they be combined to provide integrated control?

This workshop is targeted at beekeepers who want to keep the *Varroa* populations in their hives under control. The focus will be on how oxalic acid can be applied using the sublimation method to kill 97% or more of the *Varroa* without harming the bees. The workshop will also give information on the effectiveness of some other *Varroa* control methods including hygienic behaviour, drone trapping, and Apistan. It will also show beekeepers how to quantify the *Varroa* in their hives.

The workshop will take place at the Laboratory of Apiculture & Social Insects, University of Sussex, Falmer, Brighton, BN1 9QG and will combine lectures with hands on activities, and will be based on the results of LASI research carried out in the 'Sussex Plan for Honeybee Health'. Teachers include Professor Francis Ratnieks, Mr Luciano Scandian, Mr Norman Carreck, Dr. Karin Alton and other LASI researchers.



For full details visit: www.sussex.ac.uk/lasi/newsandevents/events/ivmworkshop

LASI Workshop - *Plants for Bees*

Determining the most attractive plants for bees and other flower visitors. How to help bees and other flower-visiting insects by planting the right flowers. Workshop date: Saturday 28th July.

Bees and many insects visit flowers to gather nectar and pollen. One reason why bees and other flower-visiting insects have declined is because there are fewer flowers. However, not all flowers are equally good for insects, and some insects preferentially visit certain plant species.

So which are the best flowers? The workshop is targeted at anyone who is interested in helping bees through flowers, whether ornamental garden flowers or wild flowers. You will learn how to identify the main types of flower-visiting insects and how to quantify them so that you can determine which attract the most insects and also which types of insects visit them. For example, some flowers attract more honeybees, some more bumblebees, some more butterflies.

Again, the workshop will take place at the Laboratory of Apiculture & Social Insects, University of Sussex.

Full details at www.sussex.ac.uk/lasi/newsandevents/events/plantsforbees

Melvyn's Missive



Chairman, Melvyn Essen, writes for the County News

Despite being a difficult spring, the bees seem to be doing well now so far! Some members of Central Sussex have been harvesting spring honey, with Rape fields around you can't be too careful. Last year I had to cut out some solid granulated comb as they capped Rape honey, then filled the rest of the comb with nectar before I could harvest it. This year the bees have built new comb in the gaps as there has been a good flow on.

I hope your swarm prevention has been working despite the bees suddenly wanting to swarm. Calls for swarms have been low unless the callers have been contacting only one person in my area. I thought the last BBKA system was a lot clearer and helpful to the public.

I have included a photo of a head-scratching swarm 15ft up an apple tree, I said I need a net, the owner provided me with a net he uses to pick apples, perfect. I lined the net with a large plastic bag and I had the swarm in the bag! Then into a nuc as it was raining by then.

We have found that split colonies have been doing well with the good weather creating a good flow. Hoping there isn't a June gap, but be prepared to feed nucs.

I hope your Divisions have been busy dealing with the new data protection, it certainly blocked our inboxes last week didn't it. However, it gave me an opportunity to unsubscribe to a lot of sites.



Melvyn chairman@westsussexbeekeepers.org.uk

Around the Divisions

All Members are welcome to attend any Divisional meeting, but please advise the organiser if you plan to attend.

Central Sussex Division

Saturdays in June - Regular morning meetings at Pease Pottage from 9:30 am.

Further details from Debbie Rowland: chairman@centralsussexbka.org.uk or website: www.centralsussexbka.org.uk

Chichester Division

Tuesday 12th June - 'Queen Rearing', with David Rudland from East Surrey Bees. The Fishbourne Centre, 7:30 pm, Black-boy Lane, Fishbourne, Chichester, PO18 8BE.

Details from: secretary@chichesterbeekeepers.co.uk or website: www.chichesterbeekeepers.co.uk

**'Share your Division's
activities with readers of the
County News'**

Wisborough Green Division

Saturdays in June - Regular meetings at the teaching apiary from 1:50pm.

Further details from Tess Clarke: secretary@wgbka.org.uk or website: www.wgbka.org.uk

Worthing Division

Sunday 3rd at 2pm, Wednesday 13th at 2pm & 20th at 6pm, and Saturday 23rd June at 2pm. - Meetings at the teaching apiary. Further details from Len Lewis:

secretary@worthingbeekeepers.org.uk or the Division's website: www.worthingbeekeepers.org.uk

... and Dates for your Diary

Thursday 7th - Saturday 9th June - *South of England Show*, South of England Showground, Selsfield Road, Ardingly, RH17 6TL. See article in the March newsletter.

Friday 7th - Sunday 9th September - *BIBBA Conference*, Royal Agricultural University, Cirencester, Gloucestershire, GL7 6JS. <https://bibba.com/event/bibba-conference-2018/>

Thursday 25th - Saturday 27th October - *National Honey Show*, Sandown Park Racecourse, Esher, Surrey, KT10 9RT. www.honeyshow.co.uk. See article in April's newsletter.

Saturday 28th July - LASI Workshop - '*Plants for Bees*'. Laboratory of Apiculture & Social Insects, University of Sussex, BN1 9QG. 11:15am - 3pm. www.sussex.ac.uk/lasi/newsandevents/events/plantsforbees

Friday 7th & Saturday 8th September - LASI Workshop - '*Integrated Varroa Management*'. Venue as above. 11:15am - 3pm. www.sussex.ac.uk/lasi/newsandevents/events/ivmworkshop



South of England Show



A reminder that the South of England Show takes place this month at the Ardingly Showground near Haywards Heath. Thursday 7th June to Saturday 9th June.

The Bees & Honey Show event is an extremely popular visitor attraction staged within a marquee at the Show organised by the South of England Agricultural Society. Full details at www.seas.org.uk.

...and finally

Bees for Sale

5 frame Nucs and full colonies for sale with or without National Hive with locally reared laying queens.

All enquiries to Master Beekeeper, Daisy 07980 280852 or Martin 07966 509424.



We're on the web:
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 please send articles and photographs to:

Graham Elliott, Editor & County Secretary, no later than the 20th of the preceding month.
secretary@westsussexbeekeepers.org.uk



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

