



Sevenoaks and Tunbridge Wells Beekeepers Branch Programme 2021



Tuesday Zoom meetings: 7.30-9.00pm

16th January

Margaret Murdin: Simple Bee Genetics

Margaret was previous President of the BBKA and Master Beekeeper

She will consider why we sometimes get poor brood patterns and ask: Exactly what are diploid drones? There will be some comparison of genetics between humans and bees and a look at why some characteristics are dominant, such as colour. You will also find out why we sometimes find white-eyed drones in our colonies.

16th February

Julia Pigott: Sweetness and Light - Our Relationship with Honey Bees

Julia's wide ranging talk covers Honey Bee History and evolution, history of human/honey bee interaction. Honey Bee history in the UK and bee phrases we use in every day speech

16th March

Andrew Durham: Asian Hornet; lessons from the French experience

With last year not having the invasion of Asian Hornets that we have been waiting for there is a danger of us ceasing to be vigilant. Andrew will explain the factors affecting its success across Europe. Its control and what a beekeeper can do to manage bees under predation.

13th April

Celia Davis: Beekeeper v Bee: How our activities as beekeepers impact on the natural life of the honeybee colony.

Celia Davis NDB, is author of The Honey Bee Inside Out and The Honey Bee Around and About.

Do we really understand Honeybee communication processes? A talk to explain how we can minimise stress in our bees.

Towards the Basic assessment

7 Weekly zoom meetings from Wednesday 10th February 7.45-9.00pm

A series of seminars, for beekeepers with at least a year's experience, who are considering the Basic assessment examination. Although assessment is not compulsory for joining the meeting, and it may not be possible this year. Numbers will be limited to 15 households. Cost will be £30

To book, e-mail Cliff Hayward: pbhayward9@hotmail.com

Other training opportunities

The BBKA are also running Zoom lectures. See <https://www.bbka.org.uk/bbka-talks>

KBKA have arranged (Not the) Lenham Lecture for February 6th
Mark Ballard will talk on Removing bees from Buildings and
Prof. Tim Sparks will talk on The Changing Seasons
See the KBKA newsletter for details.

Other Branches are also running Zoom lectures, many being open to members of other branches

Our own **Introduction to Beekeeping course** will resume as soon as circumstances allow us to support new beekeepers.

For our **Autumn series of lectures** it is very much hoped that we can return to meeting as a group. Details will be published later. Provisional dates for your diary:

Tuesday 21st September

Tuesday 19th October

Tuesday 16th November our AGM

We are also hoping to be able to hold our Honey Show at the end of September.

Branch Apiary meetings

It is hoped that we will be able to open our two branch apiaries to members once restrictions are eased. Hopefully towards the beginning of the season. Dates will be circulated then but are likely to remain as previously:

Hilbert Road meeting on 1st and 3rd Sunday's from 10am

Barrwood meetings on 2nd and 4th Saturday's from 2pm

BRANCH OFFICIALS 2020-21

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