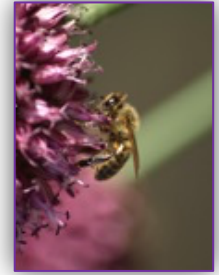
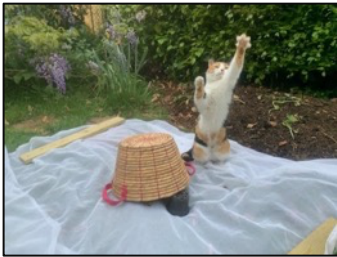


**SEVENOAKS AND TUNBRIDGE WELLS
BEEKEEPERS
BRANCH NEWSLETTER
NOVEMBER 2025**

Editor: Mary Staffurth
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AGM & Prize-giving



The branch annual general meeting will take place on Tuesday November 18 at 7.30pm at Weald Memorial Hall. This is the opportunity for members to hear how the branch has been operating during the past year and to have their say on future activities. The agenda and all the relevant reports will be sent out by email.

Cups, shields and certificates will be awarded to the winners from October's honey show.

John Farrow's photo of the bee-catching cat won the photograph category.

Honey Show results correction

The first prize for 2 identical candles dipped went to Cliff and Pauline Hayward.

Asian Hornet Nests

Before we settled down to the quiz at October's meeting, Sue Knights and Martin Barrett gave us an update on the Yellow-legged Asian Hornet. In our area in recent months, primary nests have been found in Plaxtol and Ivy Hatch. Secondary nests have been found in Plaxtol, Ivy Hatch, Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells. Sue described seeing the National Bee Unit's Asian Hornet team at work in Plaxtol. They turned up on a Thursday and attached radio transmitters to track the insects back to their nest. They found the nest the following day and removed it on the Saturday.

Sue and Martin have spent a lot of time going to local events to highlight the threat to bees from the Asian Hornet. They have found that, in general, people know about it, but they don't know what to do if they see one. The key thing is to take a picture, although this is not easy, and to report it on the 'Asian Hornet Watch' app.

Honey for Sale

There is branch honey for sale at £7.50 for a 1lb jar, and £6.50 for a 12oz jar. If you are looking for a stocking filler or small Christmas gift, why not buy a jar of honey? Contact Liz Birchenough: membership@sevenoaksbeekeepers.org.uk

New Beekeepers

The branch will be running its Introduction to Beekeeping course in the new year. It is aimed at complete beginners, the idea being that you should know what beekeeping entails before getting your own bees. You do not have to be a member to attend this course, so if you have any interested friends or neighbours, please put them in touch with me and I will send them details: membership@sevenoaksbeekeepers.org.uk

Liz Birchenough, Membership and Treasurer

*Send photos or articles for the newsletter to: marystaffurth@yahoo.com
Go to our website for all the latest beekeeping news: <http://www.sevenoaksbeekeepers.org.uk/>*