

Reigate Beekeepers



BeeNews

January 2015



Photo opportunity of the Month



Blue Banded Bee

A resident of Australia, which is home to 2,000 native bee species most of which live solitary lives, and some 12 species of social stingless bees. (The UK has less than 300 species of bees.)

See page 9 of this [BeeNews](#) for more information about the different types of 'European' honey bee.

*Got an unusual, topical, or interesting bee related image that could be featured here?
Please send it to the editors today!*

Dates for your Diary

Date	Event / Description	Venue / Contact
Jan, Wed 7 th	Winter Meeting (19:30-21:30) 'Making Beeswax & Honey Cosmetics' - a talk by guest speaker Michelle Emoult	Woodhatch Centre Paul Cleaver
Jan, Sat 17 th	SBKA-General Husbandry Assessment (10:00 - 15:45) Led by Master Beekeeper Alastair Welch.	East Horsley Vill. Hall Sandra Rickwood
Jan, Fri 23 rd	Guildford Division Quiz Night (19:30 - 22:30) Open to members & partners - help form a Reigate team.	Guildford Celia Perry
Jan, Sat 24 th	Reigate BK Spring Lunch (12:15 - 14:45) Pre-Season social with a jolly good meal in prospect.	Grumpy Mole-Brockham Andrew Buchanan
Jan, Sat 31 st	SBKA Training Day (09:30 - 17:00) 'Bee Improvement for All' presented in conjunction with BIBBA	Cobham Village Hall sbkabibba@gmail.com
Feb, Tue 3 rd	Closing Date for March Module Exams Entry Application forms and fees need to be submitted.	County Exam Sec. Celia Perry
Feb, Wed 4 th	Winter Meeting (19:30 - 21:30) 'Balloon Debate' ... a number of speakers attempt to win approval ...	Woodhatch Centre Paul Cleaver
Feb, 6 th & 21 st	Epsom BKA - Anaphylactic Shock & Cardiac Arrest Lecture/presentation details to be provided	Venue tba Sandra Rickwood
Feb, Sat 21 st	Closing Date for Gen & Adv Husbandry Exam Entry Application forms and fees need to be submitted.	County Exam Sec. Celia Perry
Feb, Sat 28 th	West Sussex BKA Convention (09:30 - 16:30) Lectures and seminars to suit all standards ...	Pulbrough Gordon Allan
Mar, Wed 4 th	Winter Meeting (19:30 - 21:30) 'Einstein, Bees & the Survival of the Human Race' presented by Jack Chapman	Woodhatch Centre Paul Cleaver
More dates?	The Members website has the full year's Diary Dates	Click Here

Comments about and contributions for publication in [BeeNews](#) will be welcomed by the editors.
For inclusion in an edition, contributions are required by the 25th of the preceding month.



New Year, New Plans, New Intentions.

A new year of beekeeping ahead, brings many thoughts and ideas to build upon the past year.

In this first **BeeNews** of 2015 you will find timely reminders, prompts, inspiration and help for your own beekeeping and participation in Reigate Beekeepers' activities. Along with information about RBKs' own events, each month your editors also receive notices from the likes of the NBU, BBKA, Surrey BKA, neighbouring associations and sister divisions; all craving your attention. There is only so much that can be included within these few pages each month. Which is where the Members Website comes in so handy. Not only providing all the extra space needed but also the opportunity to publicise new notices as and when they are released. No need to wait for the next edition of **BeeNews**.

To help you help yourselves to 'no-wait-notices' we encourage you to subscribe to, or follow, the Members Website for notifications of new items added to the site. Sign-up from the website.

In this months edition, New Year greetings are launched by **Andrew Buchanan** plus updates about the new exciting developments at the Henfold apiary. Upcoming social events provide opportunities to make new and renew friendships with fellow beekeepers. The new beekeeping year is presented with a guide to month by month activities, and you are encouraged to make new resolutions to learn and help others learn more about beekeeping by studying, attending courses, taking exams and mentoring ... and new insights into bee behaviour and the differences between subspecies of honey bees are provided.

Rounding off this edition, as a regular back page feature, are clips of recent new posts on the website. If you haven't already read those posts, please do so now. If browsing is not your scene, remember that the Front Page of our website presents the hot topics, whilst for a complete set of ALL the latest and current posts in just one place, at least visit the [Noticeboard](#) ... often.

Which just leaves us a little space to add our own wishes that you enjoy a great New Year ...

Richard & Graham

PS. Have you ordered your new Polo shirt or Sweatshirt yet?

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Our website is updated much more regularly than this monthly edition of **BeeNews**, so click on [Members Website](#) for lots more information and, all the latest news and activity updates.

Reigate Beekeepers

MEMBERS



New Year Greetings

from Andrew Buchanan

Chairman's Chat

Very Happy New Year to one and all.

This time of year, the bees are lying low, keeping warm and, in the main, out of sight. This may lead many new beekeepers to believe that there is little beekeeping to be done during January and February. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Brushing snow from the entrance and keeping a check on the weight of a hive are two important aspects of winter beekeeping. Whilst hefting hives takes experience, keeping a record of weight throughout the winter will indicate any reduction resulting from the bees consuming the stores they were left with in the autumn. If in any doubt that they have enough to last through to March, feeding them with some sugar fondant will keep them going – better safe than sorry !

If a varroa count was/is high, then now will be the time to apply Oxalic Acid as part of an Integrated Pest Management Programme. It is the time when capped brood is at it's smallest. Then there is the planning of a programme of management of the bees for the coming season and preparation of old and new equipment in readiness for use in March/April. For those who are not sure how to plan a programme or are looking forward to taking exams in 2015 there is much reading to be done.

In addition to looking after their own colonies, there are some members who have undertaken RBKA projects over the winter. The Henfold Winter Team is monitoring the colonies at Henfold in an effort to maximize the number of strong and healthy colonies ready for April.

Another project being developed is our Education Curriculum. As you will have seen elsewhere in our publications, it would be greatly appreciated if members who have passed the Basic Exam and wish to consolidate their knowledge, could give some time to help mentor a group of new beginner members.

We have a newly elected Treasurer who is burning the midnight oil getting to grips with the complexities of our accounting systems.

The BeeNews and Website Team is constantly busy gathering interesting articles. Our Membership Secretary sorts out the liaison between BBKA and BeeCraft and there are those who make sure that refreshments are on hand whenever required.

There are of course many more 'projects', some of which sadly are taken for granted, and are organized and carried through by other members.

News about the Henfold Development Project is very positive and exciting. The pictures below show the work in progress, but both the foundations and sewage system are now completed.



left to right ... Cesspool tank before being buried; Pouring concrete for the main foundation slab; Completed main slab - the verandah section about to be laid. [Click here](#) for more photos.

As I described in last months edition, almost all the funds needed to purchase the 'shell' of the building had been raised. And as two members have very kindly pledged to underwrite the shortfall of about £8,000, the members present at the EGM on 3rd December gave permission for Phase 3, the erection of the Building Shell, to go ahead. This is now being organized - more information next month.

So it can actually be a very busy time of year! To all those who have been so enthusiastic and hard working and to those who have made donations to the Henfold Development Project, RBKA owes a huge debt of thanks.

Trusting you have enjoyed a Merry Christmas and, once again, a Very Happy New Year to one and all.

Andrew

PS. Don't forget to book your seat at the Spring Lunch.



Events News

Spring Lunch: ! BOOK NOW !

Join the company of old and new members alike (with partners very welcome) at this years RBKA Spring Lunch on Saturday ...
24th January 2015
12:15 pm for 1:00 pm



at
The Grumpy Mole, Brockham Green, RH3 7JS
Full details of the Menu and an Order Form for you to complete and return asap please, are available via the [Members Website](#), and once again, also accompany this issue of *BeeNews*.

Don't delay booking your place as there is a limit of 35 people and it's 'first come first served'.

To book your place (or places) please send or give a completed Booking Form together with your Cheque/Cash

to Andrew Buchanan
'Drumbeg', Weare Street,
Capel, Surrey, RH5 5JA.

Bookings required by 17th January 2015

Looking forward to seeing you there.

Quiz Night in Guildford: Team Call-Up



Guildford Division will be running a quiz on Friday ...
23rd January 2015
from 7:30 pm to 10:30 pm

at
Jacobs Well Village Hall, Jacobs Well Road, Guildford, GU4 7PD.
We would like to put together a team to take part. If you are interested in making up a team, please let me know.
You can ring me on 0790 3991120.

The quiz will not just be about bees.

The cost is £12 per person to include cod & chips or a veggie burger.

You need to bring your own drinks and glasses.

We need to book our places, so please get in touch as soon as possible.

Celia Perry

Equipment News

RBK's Auction of Bees and Beekeeping Equipment - Saturday 11th April

As announced at the AGM, this years Reigate Beekeepers Auction of Bees & Beekeeping Equipment will be held at our Mickleham Apiary on the 11th April.

Organised this year by **Paul Cleaver**, with **Malcolm Fry** as our Auctioneer. **Sellers Registration** and **Terms & Conditions** Forms are now available to be downloaded, either via the Members website ([click here](#)) or via the Auction notice on our Public website www.reigatebeekeepers.org.uk

If you have any spare equipment that deserves another life ... put it into the auction. The Sellers and T&C's forms explain how you can do this and how the auction works. An 'on-line' version of the Sellers Registration form allows you download and fill in the Word Document directly from your keyboard to then save and send to Paul by email. A second version is a simple Word document that can be downloaded, printed, filled-in by hand and posted to Paul.

And if you are looking for additional equipment, come along on the day and bid to pick up a bargain or two.

And whilst there, pop into the Village Hall to visit the **Paynes** stand for those other items you realise by then that are needed; enjoy the tea, coffee and bacon rolls on sale; and drop off your samples of Bees at the Health Clinic that will be running on the same day.



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Thermology of Wintering Honey Bee Colonies

Honey bees are some of the few insects that survive the Winter as a colony. They do not hibernate but as the outside air temperature decreases the winter cluster becomes tighter and more compact.

For those readers who enjoyed last months article in [BeeNews](#) about 'bee temperatures' and want to know more about what happens to our bees as they cluster to survive the Winter [click here](#) to read about studies into what goes on within the hive.



Using Oxalic Acid to Treat for Varroa

Using oxalic acid as part of Integrated Pest Management can reduce the level of varroa mites down to an insignificant number.

The majority of the mites are only present on the bees themselves during the Winter period when the colonies brood is at its lowest.

Oxalic acid can be harmful to the brood but adult bees can cope with it and the mites fall off the bees and down to the floor. With an open mesh floor the mites fall through the mesh and cannot climb back on to the bees.

When To Treat

When the colony is broodless, or at least at its very lowest, normally mid-December to mid-January. *(Another time when a colony is broodless, is just after hiving a swarm or shook swarming onto fresh foundation.)*

Temperature

It should be a cold dry day with little wind, too cool for the bees to be flying, and they should be in a fairly close cluster.

Another temperature to consider is that of the solution. it should be at about the same temperature as the bees. Warming to your own body temperature is the usual advice.

How Much To Apply

Although oxalic acid is known to be deadly to the mite, it is often applied in quantities which are too low to be effective, or so high that it harms the bees as well as the parasite.

The recommended amount per seam is no more than 5 ml, but it may be wise to use even less especially on the outer frames where there are fewer bees, increasing to only about 2.5-3 ml in the central seams. Just a little seems to work fine but too much will harm

your bees. The solution is dribbled in a steady continuous line directly onto the bees, ie centrally between the frames with bees present.

How To Apply

For just a few hives the cheapest method is a simple syringe. Four 10 ml syringes give a nice steady continuous flow over the seams of bees in a very short time. The larger syringes available can easily spurt out too much onto the bees.

Researchers have found that when applied as a vapour rather than a solution, and at a particular dosage, the treatment can remove virtually all traces of varroa from hives without any harmful outcomes for bees. Special vapourisers, (see photo below), are available to treat in this way.



Safety First

Oxalic acid is poisonous. It can harm your eyes, and skin and the fumes can damage your lungs. Wear rubber gloves and wash off any spilt solution with clean water.

The shelf life of the mixed solution is less than six months so don't keep it for next year. Keep all records of any varroa treatment.

For further information [click here](#) to download BBKA Advisory Leaflet B13.

courtesy of Nottinghamshire BKA



The Beekeeping Year

Now is the time to start planning your beekeeping year. Each month involves different activities. The time that these take varies because of a number of factors, including how experienced you are, how many hives that you have - and how much time you want to spend enjoying your beekeeping. For the new beekeeper, once a week isn't too often to visit the bees, but this does not mean that you need to continually open your hives.

Observe your bees and find out more about the bees and their life cycles.

Of course no year is like another in beekeeping. Weather and other conditions affect what happens each year, and bees often do not behave as you expect them to do.

The following table (adapted from a number of sources, including BYBKA Connecticut) gives a general idea of what is involved during a 'typical' beekeeping year - but it is only a general guide. More details and advice are given each month on our Members Website, including a Monthly Tips Checklist of tasks, [click here](#) to see the information about this month in the apiary.

Month	The Bees	The Beekeeper	Time
January	The queen is surrounded by thousands of her workers. She is in the midst of their winter cluster. There is little activity except on a warm day when the workers will take the opportunity to make cleansing flights. There are no drones in the hive, but some worker brood will begin to appear in the hive. The bees will consume about 2.5 Kg (6 lbs) of stored honey this month.	This is a quiet month in the apiary. Tasks at this time of the year continue to be all about protecting the hives, checking the entrance is clear and ensuring our bees survive the Winter which requires warmth and sufficient food. If you intend treating the colonies with oxalic acid to reduce varroa do it early in the month to avoid damaging the new brood if the queen does start laying. Feed fondant if necessary.	For a small Apiary (1-3 Hives) < 1 hour
February	Although this is usually the last of the quiet months for the beekeeper, things are stirring in the hive as the bees begin to respond to the longer daylight hours. The queen, still cosy in the cluster, will begin to lay a few more eggs each day. It is still 'females only' in the hive. Workers will take cleansing flights on mild days. The bees will again consume 6 lbs or more of honey this month.	Caretaker activities are important. February is all about making sure that your bees have sufficient to eat and drink, and protecting your hives from the continuing effects of cold wet wintry weather and animals.	< 1 hour
March	This is the month when colonies can die of starvation. With the days growing longer, the queen steadily increases her rate of egg laying. More brood means more food consumed. Because of the rapid expansion of the brood nest more colonies starve in March than at any other time of the year. The bees will continue to consume honey stores. We are now in a critical phase, colony populations are at their lowest and most of the bees in the hive will be old bees that have over-wintered. These old bees will not survive very far into the Spring.	Any setback at this stage can be fatal to the colony, so we must ensure that they have sufficient food - which must be close to the cluster - and that there is as little disturbance as possible so that they can get on with the important work of breeding new bees and growing the colony. But in early in March, do not inspect (as apposed to checking) the bees unless you have a very good reason, and remember the wise advice of our founder Miss Whyte-Johnson "do not open the brood box until the Apple is in bloom". If the weather is warm (above 15°C), you can quickly lift the crown board and check the stores. If the colony needs feeding, ie less than two frames, then there are three options: provide fondant, sugar syrup, or a frame of honey. If it is still very cold stick with fondant, syrup should only be given if flying is possible. If the weather is mild the bees will use a rapid type feeder, otherwise a contact feeder is better. Remember, once you start, you should not stop until they are bringing in their own food supplies.	2 hours
April	The weather begins to improve, and the early blossoms begin to appear. The bees begin to bring pollen into the hive. The queen is busily laying eggs, and the population is growing fast. The drones will begin to appear.	On a warm and still day do your first comprehensive inspection. Temperatures should be at least 15°C, preferably warmer, with little wind. Have everything to hand, including a few frames of good comb or foundation, in case any old combs have to be replaced. Can you find evidence of the queen ? Are there plenty of eggs and brood ? Is there a nice pattern to her egg laying ?	3 hours
May	Now the activity really starts. The nectar and pollen should begin to come into the hive thick and fast. The queen will be reaching her greatest rate of egg laying. The hive should be bursting with activity.	Add a queen excluder, and place honey supers on top of the brood box. Watch out for swarming. Inspect the hive Weekly.	4-5 hours



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June	<p>Colonies should be boiling with bees, and if they haven't already they will try to swarm.</p> <p>The queen's rate of egg laying may drop a bit this month.</p>	<p>The advice for June is to 'be prepared' ... for a number of events and situations, including the 'June Gap', Varroa Treatment, Removal of Rape Honey for Extraction and ... Swarming.</p> <p>These things can need to be done in a bit of a rush, so make sure that you 'are prepared'.</p> <p>The so-called 'June Gap', is when there may be a gap between the spring flowers such as sycamore, blackthorn, hawthorn, and oil seed rape and the start of the summer flowers such as lime, clover, blackberry and sweet chestnut. So be vigilant and ensure your bees have enough food to get the colony through any period of bad weather.</p> <p>Honey from oil seed rape will need to be extracted before it sets in the comb.</p>	2-5 hours
July	<p>Our bees should be at their maximum strength to take full advantage of the summer flowers.</p> <p>Although we are now past the longest day and the queen will be reducing her rate of laying eggs, we still need to ensure that the queen has space to lay and our colonies have enough space to store nectar and pollen.</p>	<p>Continue inspections to assure the health of your colony, and continue to check for queen cells.</p> <p>Add more honey supers if needed. Keep your fingers crossed in anticipation of a great honey harvest.</p> <p>Check your varroa count.</p>	2-3 hours
August	<p>The queen's rate of laying will begin to slow, and the colony size will begin to decrease. Drones are still around, but outside activity begins to slow down as the nectar flow slows.</p>	<p>August is the month when the main extraction of honey takes place. Some beekeepers suggest no honey is removed until one week after the main flow has ceased, which they say allows the bees to settle down and become less aggressive.</p> <p>Lower chance of swarming but continue to check for queen cells. Watch for honey robbing by wasps or other bees.</p>	3-4 hours
September	<p>The drones may begin to disappear this month. The hive population is dropping. The queen's egg laying is dramatically reduced.</p>	<p>September is the month when the normal beekeeping season ends, and you need to start preparing for Winter. Feeding needs to be completed before the end of the month, allowing the colony to process the stores into a state that remains suitable for them to use over the Winter.</p> <p>Check the bees are disease free. If not already done, take samples and test for Nosema. Check for varroa. Treat where necessary with such as Apilife Var. Check your colonies are 'queen-right'. The brood nest may not be large, but there should still be some eggs, larvae and sealed brood.</p> <p>Protect your colonies by reducing the hive entrance size, and protect from Autumn gales.</p>	2-3 hours
October	<p>Not much activity from the bees. They are slowing up and will be hunkering down for the Winter.</p>	<p>October is the month when you should complete your hive preparations for the Winter.</p> <p>By now you should have completed feeding your bees to ensure they have sufficient stores going into the Winter, if your bees do need any further feed, use fondant. Generally the recommended stores required for the Winter is 40-50 lbs (18-22 kg), and a BS brood frame contains 5 lbs (2.2 kg) of stores, so your bees require at least eight to ten frames of stores.</p> <p>Continue to Monitor the varroa fall, and if necessary treat with thymol (Apiguard) or preferably organic (Apilife Var). The smell from Apiguard may inhibit the bees from taking the feed.</p> <p>Watch out for robbing. Install mouse guards and consider winter insulation measures.</p>	2 hours
November	<p>Even less activity this month. The cold weather will send them into a cluster. It is all about the bees surviving the Winter, so they need to retain heat in the hive and have sufficient stores to get them through the cold months.</p>	<p>Store your equipment away for the Winter. From now on and until the early Spring you should only open your hives if you are giving the bees additional feed. Heft your hives to check for stores.</p>	1 hour
December	<p>The bees will be huddled in a tight cluster to keep warm, however they may fly out even on cold days.</p>	<p>There's nothing you can do with the bees. Tasks at this time of the year are all about protecting the hives and ensuring our bees survive the Winter.</p>	None



New Year Resolutions

by **Andrew Cornwall**

Next month I'm going to write about 'The Basic'. If you haven't yet taken the assessment, please make it your resolution to take it this year.

The education plans for the coming year are very well advanced. I thought I was ready last year for my 1st full year as RBKA's Education Coordinator. Ha! 'A lot less muddle and even more preparation' is my resolution for 2015.

Education dates already in the diary for this year include:

- Pre-Season Meeting: Wednesday, 18th March – venue to be confirmed.
- Henfold Tidy-up and Welcome to the NewBees from the Winter Course: Saturday, 21st March.
- 1st Evening Meet at Henfold: Wednesday, 1st April.
- Auction & Spring Bee Clinic: Saturday, 11th April at Mickleham Village Hall & Apiary.
- Mock Basic: Saturday, 6th June at Henfold.
- Taster Day: 27th June at Mickleham Village Hall & Apiary.
- Basic Assessments and Summer BBQ: Saturday, 11th July at Henfold.
- Extraction Day & Autumn Clinic: Saturday, 1st August at Newdigate Village Hall

Andrew

Keep up-to-date by visiting the **Events** section of the website for ALL [Diary Dates](#).

BBKA Exams

by **Celia Perry**

Modules will be held in 2015 on 21st March and 14th November. Application forms for the modules have to be with BBKA by 10th February for the March modules and 30th September for the November modules. These are not the dates by which the forms must be with me but the date by which I have to get them to BBKA. So please get your form to me at least seven days before the closing date so I have time to send them all to BBKA by the closing date. Please do not send your form direct to BBKA because I need to know candidate numbers, to make sure there will be enough room for candidates on the day.

The closing date for applying to take the General and the Advanced Husbandry is 28th February. And again I need the form about a week before that date.

Finally the closing date for the Microscopy exam is 31st August with forms to me a week before. The exam is normally held in the Autumn.

If you want to take the Basic Assessment in 2015, (see **Andrew Cornwall's** prompt above) let either me or *Andrew* know so that you are allocated to the right tutor group by *Andrew* once the beekeeping season starts. I will need your application form and payment by 6th June.

You can contact me:-

by phone on 0790 3991120
by email at beeexams@hotmail.co.uk
from April at Henfold Lane most
Wednesday nights

Completed forms and cheques payable to BBKA should be handed to me or posted to:-

Celia Perry
White Gables
68 Broadhurst
Ashted
Surrey
KT21 1QF

If you would prefer to pay by card then you can ring the BBKA office at Stoneleigh to do this. They will give you a receipt number which you need to put on the form before you send it to me.

Good luck.

Celia Perry

Surrey County Exam Secretary

For full details of Modules and to download Application Forms visit the [BBKA website](#).



Question - What are the different Types of Honey Bee ?

In the UK there are twenty four species of bumble bees, around two hundred and twenty five species of solitary bee, and just a single honey bee species. But within the honey bee species there are subspecies or different types of honey bee.

There are four subspecies of honey bee that are generally familiar to beekeepers in the UK.

They all evolved from a bee which migrated from Africa and spread over the European land mass as the ice retreated at the end of the last Ice Age. During the many millennia of geological time they evolved in the different conditions which existed in the different regions.

They are all the same species of honey bee (*Apis mellifera*), but they have different characteristics, and they can interbreed, which produces hybrids. The four main subspecies are:-

The Dark European Honey Bee - *Apis mellifera mellifera*
(Generally called the 'dark' or 'black bee'.)



This northern European bee is generally a thrifty bee which has a low dependence upon winter stores and is able to build up rapidly when the weather has become favourable. They are prone to swarming because they build up so rapidly, but with careful breeding and management this can be minimised, and their docility can be readily improved. Occurred originally from Britain to eastern Central Europe

The Italian Honey Bee - *Apis mellifera ligustica* (Often referred to as the 'Yellow Bee')



This is a bee from southern Europe which requires a large winter cluster for survival in cold extreme winters, swarms very readily, and

breeds prolifically. They have a greater dependence upon stores, but can produce a good crop in favourable conditions. Thought to originate from the continental part of Italy, south of the Alps, and north of Sicily.

The Carniolan Honey Bee - *Apis mellifera carnica*
(Sometimes called the 'grey bee')



This is a central European bee which is favoured among beekeepers for several reasons, not the least being its ability to defend itself successfully against insect pests while at the same time being extremely gentle in its behaviour toward beekeepers. These bees are particularly adept at adjusting worker population to nectar availability. With their advanced navigational skills they can be maintained in large apiaries, and often in bee houses. Native to Slovenia, southern Austria, and parts of Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Hungary, Romania, and Bulgaria

The Caucasian Honey Bee - *Apis mellifera caucasica*



This eastern European bee is another grey bee, very hairy and long tongued which makes it a good forager, but colonies do not achieve full strength until mid Summer. Unfortunately it is prone to nosema disease, and is a very great user of propolis. Originates from the high valleys of the Central Caucasus. Georgia is the 'central homeland', although the bees also can be found in eastern Turkey, Armenia and Azerbaijan.

*based on an article by Brian Milward
Warwickshire BKA*

Graham Pooley



All New Items on the Members Website

The Members website is regularly updated and added too. If you have not visited the site and browsed since the last **BeeNews** was published, these are some items that may be new to you.

Catch-up now ... **click on the items to view in full.**

Spring Lunch 2015-Menu & Book..



Our ever popular RBKA Spring Lunch is on Saturday 24th January 2015 at The Grumpy Mole, Brockham, RH3 7JS

Why not join old and new members to reflect on the 2014 summer's beekeeping, Christmas, and the New Year and contemplate the possibilities for 2015. If you run out of topics, why not get up to date with the ...

January in Your Apiary



Wishing You Happy & Honey Filled 2015!

The Christmas & New Year festivities are (almost) over and as we start 2015 our thoughts may turn to the approaching new beekeeping season. We have experienced above average temperatures for most of December so, brood rearing may ...

Guildford Division - Quiz Night + ..



Guildford Division Surrey Beekeepers are hosting a Quiz Night + Fish & Chip Supper on Friday 23rd January – from 7:30 pm to 10:30 pm – at Jacobs Well Village Hall, Jacobs Well Road, Guildford GU4 7PD ...

...and they are inviting members from other Surrey Divisions to join in.

2015 ADM Propositions to ...



The BBKA's 55th Annual Delegate Meeting (ADM) will be held on Saturday, 10th January 2015. The BBKA and area Associations have put forward 19 Propositions for consideration by the delegates.

Prior to the ADM itself, the Surrey BKA Council will be meeting on the 8th January to discuss and agree ...

January Tips Checklist



This is another quiet month in the apiary. Tasks at this time of the year continue to be all about protecting the hives, and ensuring our bees survive the Winter which requires warmth and sufficient food.

The bees will be huddled in a ball to keep warm, however they do fly out even on cold days.

RBK SweatShirts & Polo Shirts...



Poloshirts and Sweat Shirts, now available either in distinctive Burgundy or demure White and sporting discrete and stylish embroidered Reigate Beekeepers logo's, are able to be ordered.

A first order batch has been completed. More individual orders are requested to make up a second bulk order.

SBKA Council Post Vacancies

SBKA

The Surrey Beekeepers Association has vacancies on its Council for the two roles of SBKA Archivist and SBKA Minute Secretary ...

... could you be interested in one of these?

WSBKA - Annual Convention



Saturday 28th February 2015
At Lodge Hill Centre, Watersfield.
Pulborough. 9.30 am - 4.30 pm

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

Reigate Beekeepers

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