



editors note:

Hello all ,
Well another year begins and I've no doubt that it will offer up new and surprising challenges for us all.
Our bees are wrapped up for the winter but this is no time to sit on our laurels..we need to be planning for the season ahead! Those who have a few years experience know only too well that the active season comes around very quickly. Therefore there is nothing like being prepared.
May I suggest the following: make a plan for the coming season on how you intend to run your hives. Ask yourself if you have enough equipment to carry out your plan and is the equipment you already have clean and ready to be used....this will pay dividends in the long run!

The Newsletter format will be changing this coming year to further enhance communication with members.
The first change will see the return of a monthly newsletter that will concentrate on bringing up to date association news and opportunities.

jan meeting

AGM 2017

To have a vibrant and fully functioning Committee it is important for all members to be active in voicing their thoughts on the future direction of the association. What would you like the committee to consider for 2017...for example do you have any thoughts on the services your association does or doesn't offer. You pay your subs and we need to know where you consider your money is best spent. We hope you will attend the AGM your input will be greatly appreciated. Allied to this we still have a vacancy for the post of **Programme secretary**...please see separate article for details in this issue of your newsletter.

Following on from the November meeting where Dr Sarah Goddard gave a talk on managing allergic reaction to stings; At this January meeting we shall have a short talk given by one of our members Paul Chase describing his experience of bee sting anaphylaxis...a must to hear for all serious beekeepers.

All the monthly meetings are an opportunity to meet other beekeepers have a chat, use the well stocked library and hear beekeeping related talksWe are putting together a good programme of speakers for this year.

AGM.....

At.....the Friends Meeting House, Miller Street, Newcastle-under-Lyme

Time... 7:00 for 7:30

The Trustees Report, Agenda and Financial Statement and have been published in advance...see pdf attachment below.

2017



Click for reports.....[Trustees report / Agenda](#)

Click for report..... [Programme Secretaries Report](#)

Following on from the excellent talk at the Xmas social meeting given by Ron Rock on Solitary bees : Members may be interested in attending the following workshop

**Build a Solitary Bee Nester Day
With Ron Rock**

at
**Gayton Village Hall, Church Lane,
Gayton, Staffordshire ST18 0HJ**

**On February 12th 2017
from 11-00 till 3-30**

Learn all about red mason and leafcutter bees, find out how to attract them into your garden, then build a desirable residence for them to live in! Nesters will be supplied as a kit for you to assemble on the day and then paint at home, (paint supplied).

**£30 per person including refreshments
(Please bring a packed lunch)**

**Call Ron on 01785 251180 to book your place
Or e-mail ronrock@phonecoop.coop**



A reminder that the library is open at each monthly meeting for the loan and return of books.

Our next Meeting held at the Friends Meeting House, Newcastle under Lyme is in January.

Bee starvation Alert !: the information below was issued by NBU

In some regions of the UK beekeepers have reported excessive use of food stores due to the un-seasonally warm weather. It would be advisable that you check your colonies have adequate stores and add supplements if required. With the weather being quite variable, fondant is the best option not liquid feed.

For those of you thinking about treating your colonies with Oxalic acid, we remind you to only use only approved products Api-bioxal or Oxuvar and to administer the treatment by label instruction only.

Further information about colony feeding and keeping good and accurate medicine records can be found on our website at www.nationalbeeunit.com .

Kind regards,
National Bee Unit.

benifts of being a NSBKA member

- Information on educational and social meetings that are arranged.
- Details of practical instruction at the apiary.
- Information and advice on beekeeping.
- The BBKA News - a full colour monthly magazine.
- Beekeeping Examinations to the highest level.
- Representation at a National and International level.
- Annual Spring Convention and Exhibition (separate entry fee).
- Audio Visual Aids and Slide Libraries.
- Full & Partner members only, Public and Product Liability Insurance brokered through the BBKA.
- Purchase frames, wax, honey jars and Ambrosia syrup (syrup subject to order size) at discounted prices.
- Be part of a growing beekeeping community.
- Loan of Honey extraction equipment including motor driven Extractor

National and International Events for 2017

WHEN	WHERE	WHAT
4th March	National Beekeeping Centre Stoneleigh Park	WBKA Spring County Lecture Tracking Bees with Harmonic Radar-Joe Woodgate
4th March	National Beekeeping Centre Stoneleigh Park	Bee Tradex
7th to 9th April	Harper Adams University Newport Shropshire	BBKA Spring Convention
30th July to 4th August	Gormaston Ireland	Gormaston Summer School
3rd to 6th August	Blenheim Palace Woodstock Oxfordshire	BBC Countryfile Live
15th to 17th September	Royal Agricultural University Cirencester Gloucestershire	Midlands and South Western Counties Convention (MSWCC)
Details provided by warickshire beekeepers via ebees		

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vacant committee positions

To enable the association to run in an efficient manner it is imperative to have all posts on the Committee filled.

The role of Programme secretary has been vacant for some time and as only been kept active thanks to Tim Waye's unstinting efforts. We really would like to put a new secretary in place for 2017.

You don't need to be experienced as mentoring can be offered. There are usually only four meetings a year. If you are interested in the position or would simply like to find out more about the committee then please contact one of the current Committee Officers