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25.03.24



Snow Drops

Hello all

How good it is to see the first of the Spring bulbs pushing their heads through the soil.

I'm in Werrington which is around 270m above sea level where the snow drops and the crocus have just started to show. This may be the case for most of you as these two are very early flowerers.

Being early makes them very attractive to the Honeybee too. Which will now have developing brood, and providing the conditions are good for flying these flowers produce much needed fresh pollen at a time when there is little to be found.

If you are cultivating them just be sure not to get the double headed snow drops as

the bees are unable to work these.

Also remember, until the weather improves with rising daytime temperatures and you can properly inspect your colony, you need to carry on hefting your hives to access the stores situation. Very early Spring when forage is still scarce, and the bees are limited by not being able to fly, is a time when stores can get depleted because of the need to feed and look after a growing brood nest. Temperatures look set to remain in single figures for the next week at least. So if you feel the need to feed my inclination would be to use fondant .

Membership renewals are drawing to a close soon. So if you need to pay please take note of the reminder below.

Finally, it would be great to see more of you at the monthly meetings.....come along, say hello and tell us about your bees !

Brian (Chair)

MARCH MEETING

Rescuing Bees from Buildings

speaker: Karl Colyer

when: Wednesday 6th March

where: Friends Meeting House Basford

Time; 7;30pm

Raffle prize donations would be greatly appreciated

Karl Colyer



Karl is a Cheshire bee farmer who has been keeping bees since 2005. He writes regularly in the BBKA magazine and is a long standing member and former Chairman of BIBBA the Bee Improvement and Bee Breeders Association.

He makes his own hives using recycled material and works with host farmers to ensure the hives are located and managed to the benefit of both the host and the beekeeper. His company Bees in Our Community helps wannabe apiarists start their own colonies

Ever wondered what happens to your bees after they swarm? They don't all end up in a bait hive and you certainly don't retrieve them all!

Karl may have the answer and also the solutions to rescue those hard to reach escapees!

Collecting a swarm in any location is always a challenge but Karl has taken it to a new level rescuing bees from the most unusual and difficult locations often with limited time to respond. The talk is a must for anyone thinking of collecting a swarm. Come along, be inspired and pick up swarm collecting tips from Karl as he explores the amazing world of where our bees go next!



Microscopy Course

Only two places remaining

Booking on a first come basis . If you are interested please register and pay on our Website

<https://northstaffsbees.org.uk/event/nsbka-basic-microscopy-course/>

Membership Renewals

If you have yet to pay your membership.

Please login to Love admin and make payment as soon as possible. This will allow us to continue to provide you with key benefits.

If you need help , or would like to pay by bank transfer instead, please contact membership@northstaffsbees.org.uk

Thank you for your continued support.

FOR SALE!

A MORNING PRE-LOVED BEE
EQUIPMENT SALE

Do you have spare beekeeping equipment languishing in the back of your shed?

Then this is your opportunity to dust it off and bring it along to our

'A MORNING PRE-LOVED BEE EQUIPMENT SALE'.

We have organised the hire of Werrington Village Hall and for a nominal fee you can
sell all equipment that is surplus to your requirement.

Pitches.... Inside (or outside for larger items) £5 per pitch... payable on the day

Where.....Werrington Village Hall 358 Ash Bank Road ST9 0JS

When.....Sunday March 24th

Time.....sellers setup time 9am.....Sale start time 10am



Shows 2024

Riding high on last years success at the Ipstones show where our team won best stand in show ... Nigel our Show manager is hoping to organise our presence at the following;

Endon Well Dressing 25th 26th 27th May

Ford Green Hall 400 Anniversary 9th June (supporting Anthony Hammond)

Leek Agricultural Show possibly the 27th July

Ipstones Agricultural Show 31st August.

We will be looking for help to man these shows. Please do your best to offer an hour or two's help it makes all the difference.

Contact Nigel; nigelshortbeech@hotmail.com



ASIAN HORNET

See it! Snap it! Send it!"

NOTICE ITS YELLOW SOCKS

Report any sightings of this species
with the free iPhone and Android recording app: **Asian Hornet Watch**
online at: <http://www.nonnativespecies.org/alerts/asianhornetnet>
by email: alertnonnative@ceh.ac.uk



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