



02.04.24



Woodblock print: FUJI FROM GOTEN-YAMA by KATSUSHIKA HOKUSAI 1831

The Japanese cherry blossom festivals take place throughout the Spring.

Hello All

The bees will be out foraging at every opportunity now. April is the month when activity in the Apiary begins to ramp up. With temperatures on the rise we can look for an opportunity to carry out our first full inspection to assess our colonies. Its also a good time to look at the condition of the hive components; these might require some remedial work. So if you have spare kit then have it ready just in case. I think its always good to replace the floor with a clean one or at least remove and scrape off the dead bees and debris that has accumulated on it over the winter.

Remember, South Cheshire BKA extend their hand of friendship and invite us to their April meeting this month. This replaces our usual Wednesday monthly gathering.

Their speaker is Roger Patterson. Roger has a wealth of beekeeping knowledge and is definitely one not to be missed. I urge all members to note the date and make every effort to attend.

We have seen a number of events such as The Beginners Beekeeping presentations, the Microscopy Workshop, School visits and the Bee Equipment sale all take place over the recent months. Thanks go to the Committee for their hard work in organising these.

NSBKA

Joint Meeting with South Cheshire BKA

Thursday April 11th 19.30

Smallwood Village Hall

School Lane

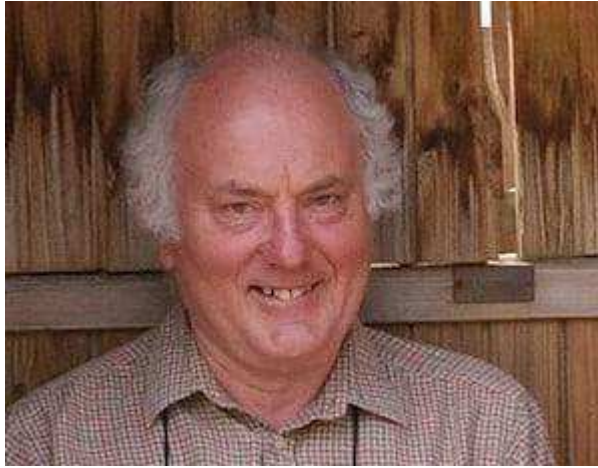
Smallwood

Sandbach

CW11 2UR

Roger Patterson:

Queen Cells: their recognition and uses



Roger Patterson is a practical beekeeper who has kept bees since 1963. At one stage he ran 130 colonies, now reduced to around 25. He is President of BIBBA and Apiary Manager at his local BKA, where he manages between 30-50 colonies for teaching purposes.

Roger concentrates on teaching the practical aspects of beekeeping that includes queen rearing and bee improvement. He is a prolific lecturer, demonstrator and writer, being author of books, booklets and a regular contributor to the bee press.

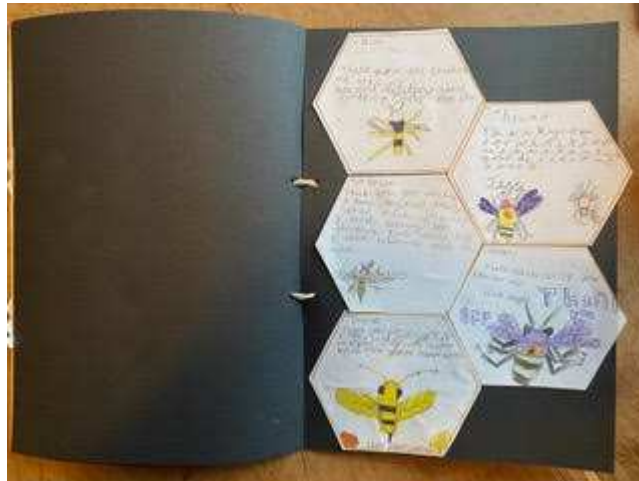
PHOTOS FROM OUR MICROSCOPY COURSE & OUR BEE BOOT SALE





School Visits

The children of Leek First School have shown their appreciation for our recent visit with messages of thanks.



A THOUGHT WHEN OBTAINING HONEY BEES

When obtaining honey bees, it is important to consider and respect the efforts of other beekeepers in your locality who are working to improve their bees. This means avoiding practices that could potentially harm their breeding programmes or dilute the genetic traits they have been working to develop.

By supporting local beekeepers and their efforts to improve their bees, we contribute to the overall health and quality of bee populations in our area. This collaboration promotes the exchange of knowledge and resources, allowing beekeepers to learn from each other's experiences and successes.

Therefore, when obtaining bees locally, it is crucial to communicate and collaborate with other beekeepers to ensure that our actions align with their efforts. This way, we can collectively work towards the common goal of maintaining and improving the health and resilience of our local bee populations.

(Contributed by Nick Mawby)

ASIAN HORNET



THE ASIAN HORNET IS A HIGHLY AGGRESSIVE PREDATOR
WHICH POSES A SIGNIFICANT THREAT TO HONEY BEES
AND OTHER POLLINATORS IN THE UK.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

LEARN HOW TO IDENTIFY ASIAN HORNETS
KNOW HOW TO REPORT ANY SIGHTINGS
SPREAD THE WORD - TELL YOUR FAMILY & FRIENDS



- DARK ABDOMEN WITH WIDE ORANGE STRIPE ON 4TH SEGMENT
- YELLOW TIPS TO LEGS
- HEAD BLACK WITH ORANGE FACE
- THORAX BLACK & VELVETY

TAKE A PHOTO IF IT IS SAFE TO DO SO
REPORT VIA THE **ASIAN HORNET WATCH APP**
OR BY EMAIL TO: **ALERTNONNATIVE@CEH.AC.UK**

SEE IT! SNAP IT! SEND IT!

FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE
ON THE BBKA WEBSITE



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Our mailing address is:
northstaffsbees@gmail.com
147
Armshead Road
Werrington, ST9 0EL
United Kingdom

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