



THE BUZZ

East Devon Beekeepers' Newsletter
www.eastdevonbk.co.uk

Reg Charity No
270675

March 2023

Dear Member,

Forthcoming Meetings: MARCH AND APRIL

Thursday 2nd March Kilmington Village Hall 7.30pm David Robinson is our speaker. Beekeeping and gardening are interlinked in no small measure whatever scale you work on. I gave a full resume of David's background in the February Buzz. David is now concentrates on planting trees, digging ponds and converting 25 acres of 'improved' pasture to wildlife meadow, whilst switching National Bee Supplies to run as a carbon negative business and writing a monthly gardening article for Bee Craft magazine. **David's talk will draw on his environmental experiences to discuss through 'how' we garden, we may impact bees, other insects and the wider world.** *If you have a 'gardening' friend or relation who may be interested then bring them along as a guest.*

Thursday 6th April Kilmington Village Hall 7.30pm. Talk from Clare Densley and Martin Haan.
"What the books don't tell you and why bees change their minds"

Current head of the bee department at Buckfast Abbey, Clare, and former SBI, Martin, will be on-hand to set you thinking and then answer all your questions on this enlightening tour of the wrinkles only experience can teach you, unless you can benefit from someone else's experience.

Sugar Collection - A Repeat Notice

Rhiannon Hodson is now in charge of the sugar collection rota. Spring feeding is on the horizon, so time to get your name on the list. (This is reject sugar from Tesco stores, i.e. broken bags and not suitable for human consumption but fine for bees).

For those who are new to the scheme you bring your own container to the beeshed and empty out 10kg quantities into your own receptacles and leave empty buckets on the decking for our sugar collectors to then refill. **Only collect when you are notified** as we work down the list of names submitted. £2 per 10kgs of sugar. Money to be placed in the nearby honesty box please.

Please let Rhiannon know how much you would like to order (rhiannonhodson1@gmail.com)

Remember she will contact you when it's your turn to collect and PLEASE HELP BY SWEEPING AWAY SPILT SUGAR FROM THE DECKING WITH THE BRUSH PROVIDED.

Gardening Team as the spring weather arrives the team will kick in with their mowing and strimming duties at the apiary. Mary Hugill (contact mary-rathmore@hotmail.com) is now in charge of this rota and will notify you when it's your turn to make an appearance. Anyone who would like to join the team please get in touch with Mary to find out more.

SWARMS- Swarm Co Ordinator this year is **Stan Wroe**. If you know you want a swarm this year, please get your name on the list. Contact Stan on: stanwroe@aol.com. Priority will be given to beginners who request a swarm. Once you are delivered a swarm please remember to tell Stan so he can update the list and it remains a current list for collectors to work from. Also, please **be ready to receive** if you ask for a swarm. Your hive should be ready and waiting in situ for transfer. Any further queries then contact Stan.

LAST CALL for anyone interested in doing their **BASIC** assessment this year. Any further takers for the **IMPROVERS** sessions? For both contact Richard: **07900 492242** or rsimpson48@aol.com

DEVON COUNTY SHOW 18th/19th/20th May – Maggie Heal is calling for volunteer stewards in the Bees & Honey Marquee. E mail her if you are interested: dcsvolunteers@yahoo.com

BBKA are advertising for a 'Friend of the Honey Bee Liaison Officer'. Successful candidate will be a BBKA member, have kept bees for a few years, be a friendly and accurate communicator and good administration skills and proficiency with IT will be essential. This will be a self-employed contract at £12 / hour. Hours flexible but will be mainly during term time and no more than 150 hours per annum. Further info and an application form from: gen.manager@bbka.org.uk
Closing date for applications: 10th March 2023. Interviews (zoom) will be held 23rd March 2023.

Val Bone

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