
the Petersfield Beekeeper

Diary

EVENT	DATE	VENUE
<p>ALL APIARY MEETINGS ARE CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. The current situation has led to the cancellation of the summer shows which the association usually attends. Let us spare a thought for the organisers and for the stall holders whose livelihoods are at risk.</p>		

PDBKA HONEY SHOW 2020

Unfortunately this year's Honey Show has been cancelled as it will not be possible to hold such an event whilst maintaining proper social distancing.

Please send items for inclusion in the October Newsletter by 25 September to depeyrecave@gmail.com

BDI AGM and TALK

This will now be held in a 'Webinar' format which means that we can accept more people who wish to hear the talk:

Natural Varroa Tolerance – Professor Stephen Martin

Immediately after the formal business, Professor Martin will be giving a presentation about his (BDI funded) work on naturally Varroa resistant honey bees. This research could have immediate practical benefits for beekeeping and follows on from the ReVive project that a number of our member associations helped to fund. This talk is open to non-delegates who are asked to register as observers for the formal AGM. Link for registration [HERE](#)



PDBKA Beekeeper Community Support 2020

At the recent PDBKA Committee Meeting I commented that it was nice to get together, albeit socially distancing, outside, under a tree, in the pouring rain!

During the 2020 season restrictions have meant PDBKA members have been unable to meet up to swap beekeeping notes or get advice and help either at the Association Apiary, or whilst helping at the many local shows we would normally attend nor at our honey-extraction session in the PCC. I am particularly missing this latter event having so far extracted 200lb of Association honey solo!

The personal contact may not be possible but the help and advice is always there.

- Apart from the BBKA and PDBKA Newsletters, the **Apiary page** of the PDBKA web site has reports and videos of a variety of procedures, including introducing a new queen, doing a 'shook swarm' and relocating a troublesome hive. On top of managing the Association Apiary without the help of the general membership, the five Apiary Custodians have added filming to their normal Apiary tasks.
- There is always help at hand via the **PDBKA Facebook page** managed by Elizabeth Eveleigh, who knows just who to contact. The network of PDBKA members has a wealth of beekeeping information and, with mobile phone pictures capturing the query, answers can be almost instant.
- A new addition to PDBKA help and support are the occasional **Zoom Beekeeping Training sessions** hosted by Brad Davies. Held on Wednesday evenings, attendance is limited to ensure these are a relaxed and informal way of chatting with fellow beekeepers.
- Keeping positive, and Covid-19 willing, PDBKA Committee is hoping to be able to hold live/virtual winter meetings in the PCC and Anne-Chantal Ballard is already planning for Apiary meetings in 2020.

Pippa

Rupert Rossetti, PDBKA member in Maryland USA, sent a link to the website of a high school student, Raina Jain, who decided to use her research project to help honey bees by designing a safe, non-invasive way to control varroa mites, called Hive Guard, which has won some prestigious awards.

There is a Forbes Magazine article about Raina [here](#).



It looks like Pippa's bees may have a little honey to spare for her..



PDBKA and Hilary Hayward get their 15 minutes of fame

As predicted by Andy Warhol (not so well-known for his beekeeping), it had to happen sometime....

The Association Swarm Line proved very useful in another context recently when we took a call from a BBC South journalist asking for a volunteer to do a piece to camera on bee-keeping and climate change. This will feature as part of a series of articles on the impact of climate change on various traditional activities such as farming, fishing, beekeeping and – rather more esoteric but very appealing – dormice. The focus will be on observations that the viewer can relate to, rather than the science behind climate change.

Hilary Hayward has kindly volunteered to be interviewed. Hilary already has a lot of experience as a beekeeper and bee inspector, and has identified a number of interesting points. These include stress to bees as a result of sudden and extreme changes in temperature, rainfall and wind direction; the change in the traditional June gap; early onset of Autumn weather; and change in swarming behaviour.

If you have observed anything in your own colonies that might be of interest, please email me, Melanie.espin@btinternet.com We don't know yet when the piece will be aired but will let you know.

Mel Espin



This month's assistant editor is Minnie the Mouser, barn cat and all-round rodent nemesis.

Your Committee for 2020/1

Chairman	Graham Rowden	01730 895368
Honorary Secretary	Melanie Espin	01730 823405
Hon Treasurer/Membership Secretary	David Hall	01730 893423
Committee Members: Pippa Barker, Anne Chantal Ballard (Education), Elizabeth Eveleigh (Minutes sec), David Parkinson (Honey Show Mngr), Martin Smyth,		
Apiary Custodians: Graham Rowden, Dean Gregory, Rowan Roberts, Peter Reader, Chris Clark		
Librarian: Martin Smyth		
Newsletter Editor	Helen de Peyrecave depeyrecave@gmail.com	01420 588675

