

Blandford and Sturminster Beekeepers' Association

November Newsletter



[Our Chairman selling books at the Dorset Convention](#)

I hope all your bees are tucked up in their hives in a warm cluster ready to see out the winter. If you offer them food of any sort they are unlikely to break out of the cluster to use it.

This is a newsletter to let you know about several up and coming events.

The AGM is on Friday 16th November starting at 7.00pm in the Shillingstone Church Centre. The AGM should not take long as most members of the committee are prepared to stand again. We need a Web Master to run our web site so if you know anything about web sites and are prepared to give it a go we would be very happy to welcome you onto the committee. If you have any comments or questions about the association please let me have them in good time so we can find an answer to them.

After the AGM we have our annual dinner; there will be three main course alternatives including a vegetarian one and four different puddings. It is a good opportunity to get together at the end of the beekeeping season; partners and associate members are invited. Tim Villiers said he will bring some wine and I will supply apple juice.

It is the time to pay your Annual Subscription. Your sub covers membership of the BBKA, Membership of Dorset BKA, membership of the BSBKA and disease insurance for your hives against foul brood diseases. The BBKA membership includes third party insurance for you as a beekeeper. Once you have paid your subscription you will get the calendar of events for 2019. If it is not paid by the end of the year we will assume you no longer want to be a member.

Courses I, Lesley Gasson, am running a course on Module 2 which is about Bee products and Bee Forage from the beginning of February for 6 two hour sessions on a Monday evening. If you are interested in joining the course please let me know. Liz Rescorla is running two modular courses in Martins Town on Module 1 and Module 6. If you are interested in either of these courses let me know and I will put you in touch with her.

We do not have any meetings in December but there are 3 talks planned for the New Year.

In January Ian Condon will show us how to make Asian Hornet traps which need to be put out in February or early March to catch the new Asian Hornet queens as they emerge from winter to start their first nest and start producing brood. Come and learn how to make your own traps.

In February Margaret Ginman secretary to the Bee Farmers Association is coming to give us a talk on the work of bee farmers who have to deal with 50+ hives. They not only produce honey but make money from pollination contracts.

In March Margaret Murdin the President of the BBKA is coming to speak to Dorset BKA in Dorchester about some aspect of beekeeping about which I shall let you know more when I see her in January. She is our link trustee to the BBKA and a level headed and practical person.



How many members of our association can you spot at the Dorset Convention?

Lesley Gasson