

Barnsley Beekeepers Association

Meeting 2^{cd} March 2020

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| Venue | ... | Gilroyd Social Club |
| Meeting Started | ... | 7.30pm |
| No. Present | ... | 27 |
| Apologies | ... | Sally Howe; Cathi Brierly; Mike Brierly |
| Chairman | ... | Val Francis |

Previous minutes: - 2^{cd} March 2020

These minutes were accepted by all.

Matters Arising

We are still in the process of migrating all our Barnsley BKA membership information onto the BDI database called e2R. Membership forms were made available at the meeting.

All Peter Dorman's equipment is now sold with the exception of a motorised 9 frame tangential spinner for a bargain price of approx. £150. Contact Val for details. Peter has kindly donated £30 back into club funds. Jill's bee suit was up for sale at £5 at the meeting.

Correspondence

Information has been received and passed onto members on the following subjects;-

- YBKA Spring Conference information distributed
- Details of Compaq and Thorne's attendance (including wax exchange) at the YKBA Spring Conference, with applicable discounts.
- BBKA Training initiatives and courses various. Please note that the " Soap & Cosmetic" course is now fully booked.
- February edition of "Positive Thinking" from Margaret Wilson distributed on 13/02/20
- The "Beeshop" supplied flyers for their range of bee clothing with a new offer of 10% per item discount.
- Yorkshire BKA Spring Conference will now be held at the YAS Pavilion on the 18th April. £25 gets you in and a lunch is included.
- Great Yorkshire Show flyers and information on entering the Honey show

YBKA –Annual Delegates Meeting

On Saturday 29th February, Ivor Flatman and Colin Jacklin attended the Yorkshire BKA ADM at Harrogate Normanby Pavilion. Major points of interest are as below:-

- YBKA Treasurer reported that all capitation had been received from all District Associations.
- YBKA finances are in generally good shape.
- A list of Speakers is to be issued.
- Basic Examination fees of £20 will be refunded by YBKA for successful candidates, but no prizes for star candidates. Application deadline is 31st July, exams in August.
- The Education Officer will be setting up various bee courses for education purposes, candidates will not be expected to take examinations.
- Proposal to include members examination pass status on the e2R
- Bulk e-mail shots (newsletters etc) to be made directly by the YBKA Sec. rather than the current system of distribution by local area Secretaries.
- The YBKA will arrange for anonymised links for all district GPC representatives and contacts to be available, in the Newsletter and on the website.
- Further e2R training to be undertaken in the districts.
- 4 off High level microscopes are available for use by all members for microscopy courses and evaluation of bee health.
- Countryside Live entries were invited for the 24/25 Oct. Note that there were 190 entries from 20 exhibitors and that most category winners in 2019 came from first time entrants.

Training Courses

A new session of Beginner Beekeeping courses will be run in May in partnership with Wakefield Beekeepers. Organised by Ivor Flatman with assistance from Val Francis and Mark Millard (Wakefield). It will take place at Thornes Park Apiary Wakefield. Information/application leaflets are available.

The closing date for entries to the Bee Health Certificate has now passed but entries for the Basic Assessment can be made until July 31st. Application forms are on the BBKA website.

Please contact Val Francis, Education Officer for more information.

Apiary at Wentworth Castle

The single surviving colony is doing well.

A working day to spruce up the Apiary at Wentworth Castles in advance of the coming season will take place on Sunday 15th March at 10:00. Willing hands with rough gardening equipment will be welcomed to strim, chop and generally attack the weeds and shrubs up there.

Equipment Sales

Phil Askam is down sizing his operation and has colonies of bees, with Queens of varying ages, and National equipment for sale. Contact Phil direct for details.

Any Other Business

A past member, Carol Sanderson, passed away last September. Our condolences go to her family and friends. Charles Austin has been invited to view her remaining equipment.

Aimee Kite gave details of a potential Apiary site near Hoylandswaine in 6 acres of woodland, rent to be Honey. Contact Aimee for details.

EFB has been detected in Sheffield and North Derbyshire. Members who have hives on the heather in those areas are advised to be particularly vigilant.

Richard Senior has set up a Face book page for BBKA members.

The link is :- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/BarnsleyBKA/>)

Speaker

Thanks to Mark Millard who gave us a very interesting, and practical, hands on demonstration on what to do with wax, how to process it, present it as blocks and making of candles and moulds..

The meeting closed at approximately 9:30 pm.

Next Meeting Programme

The next meeting will be at the Gilroyd club on Monday 6th April when Charles Austin will be relating his experiences of large-scale bee farming.

Programme for future meetings are as follows: -

Apr – Charles Austin, large scale bee-keeping
Sept- Neville Dearden, Bee keeper at Sheffield University.

Calendar of upcoming events

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| 15 March | Apiary Working day |
| 25 March | Invite from Huddersfield BKA for a talk by Tony Jefferson |
| 18 April | YKBA Spring Conference |
| 14/16 July | Great Yorkshire Show |
| 12 Sept. | Penistone Show |
| 24/25 Oct. | Countryside Live |
| 24/25 Oct. | National Honey Show |