

West Wilts BKA News

News, the planned activities and some advice for members of West Wiltshire Beekeepers Association



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This is your 'go to' section that will describe the things that you need to know about.

Good to know page 3

The 'fun bits': news and reports.

Welcome to the February edition of West Wilts BKA Newsletter, I'm very happy to receive any contributions for consideration towards content, by 21st of each month, at the email address at the end of the newsletter.

Hoping very much by the time you have read this that some of us will have met at The Duke at Bratton for the annual get together on the 1st February....

My iPhone has reminded me, on this day last year I took a photo of bees active on the Daphne Bholua blooming in my garden. Although the buds are breaking this week they are nowhere near as open as last year. I think we are all looking forward to warmer weather – but I have to keep reminding myself that it's still only February!

Diary of events

April 2023

BBKA Spring Convention – 21st – 23rd April 2023 (Thursday to Saturday), Harper Adams University, Shropshire – more information follows below on page 3

June 2023

Royal Bath and West Show – 1st-3rd June 2023 (Thursday to Saturday), Royal Bath and West Showground, near Shepton Mallet

September 2023

Frome Cheese Show – 9th September (Saturday), West Woodlands Showground, Nr Frome

West Wiltshire BKA Show – 16th September (Saturday), Bratton Jubilee Hall

October 2023

Wiltshire Bee and Honey Day – 7th October (Saturday), Devizes Corn Exchange, 10 am – 4 pm

National Honey Show – 26th - 28th October (Thursday to Saturday), Sandown Park Racecourse, Esher, Surrey

November 2023

WWBKA AGM, week beginning 6th November, TBC

Need to know

Lectures

The **BBKA is holding an on-line Asian Hornet Conference on the 4th February 2023.**

The Conference will look at several different aspects relating to the science surrounding Asian Hornets. There will be a summary of some of the work done as part of the Atlantic Positive Project; a short introduction to the Asian Hornet life history; details of developments surrounding possible deterrents, detection and protection within apiaries; and an update on the situation in Europe.

To book a place to attend this on-line conference, please complete the booking form on [Asian Hornet Conference 2023 | British Beekeepers Association \(bbka.org.uk\)](https://www.bbka.org.uk/AsianHornetConference2023)

Good to know

BBKA Spring Convention 2023 Booking opens from 31st January.....

Friday 21st – Saturday 22nd – Sunday 23rd April 2023 at Harper Adams University, Shropshire, TF10 8NB

(Bumper Trade Show Saturday 22nd). Lectures, Workshops and Seminars covering a wide range of practical and scientific topics, directed at all levels of experience, will be presented by leading experts

A wide range of Speakers and Tutors – check out the website for further information, and to book, visit the Spring Convention pages of www.bbka.org.uk

West Wiltshire Beekeepers Association - Beginners' Course 2023 – Dates and Venue

A course for beginner beekeepers is run annually. The course covers the essential knowledge and skills that all new beekeepers should have before they take delivery of their first colony of bees.

The classroom element of the course (beginning at 19:00 and ending at 21:00) is at Larkrise Community Farm, West Ashton Road, Trowbridge BA14 6DQ. On the following dates..... Wednesday 8th February, Wednesday 15th February, Wednesday 22nd February, Wednesday 1st March, Wednesday 8th March, Wednesday 15th March and Wednesday 22nd March. The course fee is £80, full information can be found at <https://westwiltsbka.org/beginners-course/>

West Wiltshire Beekeepers Association – Basic Assessment Course 2023 – Dates and Venue

Arrangements for this year's Basic Assessment course have been finalised.

The classroom based element (starting at 1900) is at the Oratory Room of the Church Institute on Tynings Lane, Bratton BA13 4RR on the following dates: Monday 6th February, Monday 13th February, Monday 20th February, Monday 27th February, Monday 6th March, Monday 13th March. Further information available on [Basic Assessment Course – West Wiltshire Beekeepers Association \(westwiltsbka.org\)](http://westwiltsbka.org)

Wax Flower Making Workshop. Dates and Venue await confirmation



The winner of first prize for a bowl of wax flowers at the National Honey Show has received a number of requests to teach wax flower making. A workshop in response to requests for them to share their skills is being developed, and they have kindly offered to give West Wilts BKA members the first chance to attend this. There will be a small charge of £20 to cover the cost of materials. Details of date and venue will be published in future newsletters.

Beekeeping supplies.



For Your Beekeeping Supplies

Your local supplier providing a service for:

- All Thorne's supplies
- BBWear suits – try before you buy
- Second hand kit bought and sold
- Available to attend your association, apiary meetings
 - Supporting Trainers, Improvers, Newbies
 - Payment by BACS, card, cash, cheque
 - Deliveries – subject to distance, order size

Please email your order or phone so we can arrange an appointment for you to visit to discuss what you need.

sales@thebeedepot.com
07879 811967
01373 430458

Diane Sleigh
The Apple Garden, Buckland Dinham, Frome, Somerset, BA11 2QP
what3words poetry.unto.driveway

Contacts and services

Contact details for committee and officers

WWBKA President: President-WWBKA@outlook.com

WWBKA Chair: Chair-WWBKA@outlook.com

WWBKA Treasurer: Treasurer-WWBKA@outlook.com

WWBKA Secretary: Secretary-WWBKA@outlook.com

WWBKA Apiary Manager: Apiary-WWBKA@outlook.com

WWBKA Honey Show Secretary: HoneyShow-WWBKA@outlook.com

WWBKA Membership Secretary: Membership-WWBKA@outlook.com

WWBKA Asian Hornet Action Team Coordinator: AHAT-WWBKA@outlook.com

WWBKA Newsletter Editor: Newsletter-WWBKA@outlook.com

Services available to members

The following services are provided by West Wilts BKA to members:

Bee Bank (for sale or purchase of queens, nucs and colonies). Contact the Branch Secretary at


Secretary-WWBKA@outlook.com

Bookers Wholesale Customer Card. Contact the Chair at Chair-WWBKA@outlook.com or 07711 018440 for details.

Equipment loan (microscopes, extractors, etc.): Contact the Branch Secretary at Secretary-WWBKA@outlook.com

Library: Contact our Librarian (either direct or through the Secretary)

Swarm Collection Register: Contact Branch Swarm Coordinator (David Newell 01373-825560 or sj007g0836@blueyonder.co.uk).

Find us on  : West Wiltshire Beekeepers Association