



May 2017 Newsletter

President: Bryan Hopper

Committee members 2017

Mike Benson	Chairman
Deborah Cosgrove	
Ian Cowdy	Editor - Newsletter
Stephen Greenaway	Vice Chairman, Spray and swarm liaison.
Clive Harris	Treasurer
Kathy Hobson	Secretary, membership secretary.
Andy Jones	
Nicola Perrett	
John Woodstock	

Farewell to a friend:

It is with great sadness we have to report that Sue Harris passed away following a long illness. Sue was a much loved and respected member of our Association having previously held the Secretary, Membership Secretary and Chair posts for a number of years. She will be sadly missed.

Club logo clothing:

Nicola Perrett holds a small stock of fleeces, polo and sweat shirts. If you would like to purchase one please contact her at nicola.perrett@btinternet.com

Club Apiary at Twigs:

The Starting Beekeeping course is now underway – welcome to Sarah, Andy and Mark. First inspection found queens and brood in the supers.

Training:

The Training dates are now shown on our website.

E-Archive:

This valuable resource is currently maintained and run by Joy Simpson. It is available on the club's website and well worth a look!

Is there any club member willing to take over the running of this resource? If so please feel free to contact either Joy Simpson or Jennie Barnes and find out what's involved!

Club meetings:

Meetings are held on the last Thursday of the month throughout the year except December. Venue is in the Skittle Alley at the Haydon Wick Club, Blunsdon road, Swindon SN25 1JD. Start time 1930 hrs

Next meeting on the 25th of May

This will be an open forum including a very entertaining DVD of some Derbyshire beekeepers inspecting their hives! Please make an effort to see one of this series as their approach to beekeeping will raise eyebrows and make you laugh!

Plastic eating wax moths!

Thanks again to Mark Togher for telling me about this, a scientist in Spain (also a beekeeper) collected wax moth larva from her hives and took them in a plastic bag for further research and discovered that the larva had eaten holes in the polyethylene bag!
This has now become a University project to find out how they digest plastic.
For further information just type "plastic eating wax moth" into your browser.

Hive occupants:



The monster above is a pseudo or false scorpion, in reality it is extremely small no more than a few mm long and normally found in leaf litter on the ground. This one was on a mite board and I found a reference that claimed they prey on Varroa mites – shame there aren't millions of them!

Apologies for the poor image – just another old dodderly beekeeper trying to hold a camera steady.

If you have pictures of anything related to beekeeping or something unusual please send to me so it can be included in future newsletters.

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