



COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2020/2021

Mike Benson	
Tim Bullock	Chairman
Stephen Greenaway	Vice Chairman, Spray and Swarm Liaison.
Clive Harris	Treasurer
Kathy Hobson	Secretary, Membership Secretary.
Andy Jones	
Nicola Perrett	
Christopher Wilkinson	Website Manager

APIARY NOTES

Hopefully the weather has warmed up enough to safely carry out hive inspections. It's always best to have a plan before you start each inspection – what do you want to know, what are you looking for etc.

The main key things to check:

- Is there enough food? (colonies can still starve at this time of year especially if the weather turns cold)
- Is the queen laying well (and does the brood pattern look good), any sign of disease?

Hopefully colonies won't be starting to make swarm preparations but now is the time to make sure you're ready for when they do (spare hives/nucs, bait hives etc). As brood boxes fill and get more congested then colonies may need to be split. Don't forget to check for swarm cells and play cups hidden away in corners and hard to get to places.

Asian hornet queens are likely to be out starting to build their first nests. Consider putting out hornet traps baited either with hornet bait or something sweet (beer, fruit etc). Check regularly and release any catch that isn't an Asian hornet.

Tim Bullock

MEETINGS

Our Zoom Club Meeting on Thursday 25.3.21 with Pam Hunter, Master Beekeeper, was very interesting and informative. The subject was "How Nutrition affects Colony Health". I think all those at the meeting learned something new!!! It would have been great if more of you had been able to join the meeting and perhaps you can join the next one on 29.4.21 (speaker to be confirmed)

TWIGS

NGS day on Sunday 23rd May, 12.00 - 4.00 pm – volunteers to talk to the visitors would be welcome. If you can help (even for just an hour) please contact Nicola Perrett (nicola.perrett@btinternet.com)

FACEBOOK PAGE

We are look for a volunteer to look after our Facebook page – please let Kathy Hobson know if you can help.

TRAINING

As mentioned in previous Newsletters we hope to be able to run Taster Days, Starting Beekeeping Course and Basic Assessment this year. As soon as we know this is possible dates will be confirmed.

If anyone is interested in taking the Basis Assessment please contact Stephen Greenaway – stephen.greenaway@outlook.com

Anything odd or unusual (or just anything!!!) to add to the Newsletter will be gratefully received.