



## **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

Website Manager

Christopher Wilkinson

## **APIARY NOTES - Tim Bullock**

As we approach the end of August, now is the time to remove the last of your extractable honey. This will give enough time to feed colonies (where needed) to ensure they've got enough stores to see them through winter.

If you are going to feed, then I'd remove all supers so that syrup is only in the brood box as you don't want to extract sugar syrup 'honey' later in the year from supers that were still on when you fed.

If varroa is a concern then I'd treat now if mite counts are above 3 a day. Read the instructions carefully for your chosen method and follow them exactly.....

If you have any weak colonies that may not make it through the winter then I'd unite them with another colony now rather than trying to get them to survive.

I'd also be checking carefully for Asian hornets. Wasp traps with a sugar-based lure or Trappit (or similar hornet lure) work well but miss catch needs to be released on a regular basis. I'd photograph any hornet caught (put the trap in the freezer overnight so you can tip them out to make photographing easier) and report to either the Asian Hornet Watch app or directly by email to the National Bee Unit.

## **COMMITTEE**

Sadly, we have lost Chris Wilkinson from the Committee as he has moved to Somerset. He has agreed to stay on as Website Manager so that is good news. Thank you Chris and good luck in your new home – hopefully you will be able to keep bees there!!

We are now looking for two or three new committee members – any volunteers? Please let Kathy Hobson know if you are interested.

## **TRAINING**

Four very successful Taster Days completed. It looks like there will be several more beekeepers next year. Quite a few of the attendees will be coming to TWIGS to help with inspections and gain more experience.

## **MEETINGS**

There is no meeting in August.

Meetings from September will be held in the Skittle Alley at the Haydon Wick Club, Blunsdon Road, Swindon SN25 1JD, start time 7.30pm. Meetings for the rest of 2021 are:

30.9.21	Speaker to be confirmed
28.10.21	AGM
25.11.21	Speaker to be confirmed
16.12.21	Skittles evening

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