



### **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

### **GERALDINE LENERT**

You will have all been notified of the passing of Geraldine Lenert. Geraldine judged our honey show several times and she will be greatly missed in the Wiltshire Beekeeping "world". I have been asked to let you know her funerals arrangements – I am sure some of you will wish to attend.

This will take place at Semington Crematorium at 4pm on the 27<sup>th</sup> October 2021. Family flowers only with donations to Wiltshire Air Ambulance. Dress Code; whatever you are comfortable in but definitely **NOT BLACK or sombre colours**. Afterwards at the Somerset Arms, Semington.

Please could anyone who will be meeting after the funeral let **Chris Rawlings** ([chris-rawlings@virginmedia.com](mailto:chris-rawlings@virginmedia.com)) know so that he knows how many to expect.

### **APIARY NOTES - Tim Bullock**

The weather is finally starting to cool down and become more autumnal, so now most colonies will have started to form winter clusters (having said that I have two colonies which still have 9 or more frames of bees!). Activity will be greatly reduced and, on many days, will appear to be non-existent. Hopefully they have enough stores to see them through, but if you are concerned don't feed syrup as they will struggle to evaporate the water so they can cap it in cells, give them fondant (if you haven't switched already). If you haven't hefted your hives yet I'd do it now so you have something to gauge against for both whether any colonies are lite now and as the winter progresses. If in doubt, feed!

### **AGM**

Due to unforeseen circumstances this will now take place on **25.11.21**. The agenda etc will be sent out in the next few weeks.

The Archives will be available after the AGM for members to have a look at prior to them being taken to the Wiltshire Archives at Chippenham for storage.

### **COMMITTEE**

Sadly, Andy Jones is not standing for re-election this year. A **BIG** thank you to him for the last few years of service to the Club.

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

### **MEMBERSHIP - REMINDER**

Membership Renewals were due 1.10.21. Please find attached the form. **Please note that the completed form should be returned to Kathy either by post or email.**

### **BEEES FOR SALE – Ian Cowdy**

Terry Cook and Fee Robinson are selling nucs of bees next year and in light of the experiences some of us have had buying nucs I think that because they keep apiaries scattered across North Wiltshire bees from them would be a safer bet than from outside the area.

[Inquiries@wiltshirebeecentre.co.uk](mailto:Inquiries@wiltshirebeecentre.co.uk)

### **BEEKEEPING EQUIPMENT ETC – Kathy Hobson**

I am always being asked by potential new beekeepers where to buy equipment from. The large suppliers I have used for hives and frames etc are Maisemore and Thornes. Hive tools, smokers can be purchased from both these suppliers but also Amazon and Ebay. I suggest a shopping list is made and then "investigate" to find the supplier and price that suits you.

### **TWIGS**

The Committee has donated £100 to TWIGS. We have kept our bees therefore many years and are pleased to continue our association with them.

This year several of the Taster Days attendees have visited the Apiary to gain more hands-on experience. Mick Carter joined Kathy and Nicola 8.10.21. It was good to have another beekeeper's opinion!!!!

### **MEETINGS**

Meetings are 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:

28.10.21	Open forum
25.11.21	AGM
16.12.21	Skittles evening

It is difficult at the moment to find face to face speakers so please bear with us until next year. Your committee is working hard on this!!!!

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