



## News

### EDBKA Bee Experience Day

Our Bee Experience Day on Saturday 15th June 2019 is a wonderful introduction to bees and beekeeping. Held at our apiary in West Moors, and for only £50, it provides a friend or relative an introduction to bees both through some brief theory in our teaching block and then hands-on practical experience at our hives. The day lasts from 10am until 4pm and includes lunch.

Whilst this won't be of interest to you as a member, it would make a wonderful gift for someone you know and raise good funds for the association.

Please call Ivor Kemp on **079325 38491** for further details.

### Thornes New Year Sale

Particularly for first year beekeepers, Thornes Bee Supplies always have a very good New Year sale with some real bargains and on a whole range of bee equipment. You can create a new hive very cheaply by buying the constituent bits but there are also bee suits and other items on offer.

### Apiary Spring Clean

A reminder that we will be organising a thorough clean-up of our Apiary early in 2019 and volunteers are needed. Please give your name now to Clive Hutchings on **01202 573973**.

### EDBKA website

If there are any budding website designers out there who would like to give our website a refresh please call Ivor on **01202 460062**.

## Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Have a wonderfully relaxing Christmas and New Year and we look forward to seeing you at our events in January and beyond.

I can now confirm the dates and venue for our 2019 training course, the first part of which takes place at British Legion Hall, Broadstone as listed below. This will be followed by a six-week practical course.

Please take note of our Asian Hornet evenings led by our very own Asian Hornet Officer, Mark White, and the dates for our indoor meetings so far arranged.

Although, of course, I want to wish you a Happy New Year, just consider for a moment if, right now, there is an Asian Hornet Queen hibernating in your loft and what you could do about it.



You really do have an obligation to attend one of our 'Beat the Hornet' meetings to help us all, as a team, combat this very real threat to our bees in 2019.

As always, if we are not providing something you want or need some advice or practical help there is always someone here who can help you. Just ask!

**Ivor Kemp, Chairman**  
**079325 38491**

## Winter 2019 training subjects by date

We are happy to now be able to announce the full itinerary of our 2019 indoor training sessions (2 hours each). The cost of the course is £50 and you must be a fully paid up member of EDBKA. All will be held at the Royal British Legion, Tudor Rd, Broadstone BH18 8AW. Please make your booking with our Treasurer, Chris Williams **01202 577041** or [chris@taasinge.co.uk](mailto:chris@taasinge.co.uk). The course will follow the BBKA Basic Assessment syllabus.

### Monday 21 January

1. Equipment  
Names, functions, different types of hives, tools, hygiene, stings and treatment

### Monday 28 January

2. Bee space and how to handle bees  
Opening a colony, reasons for opening a colony, point about bee space, types of control

### Monday 4 February

3. Life cycle of honey bee queen, drone and worker

### Thursday 14 February

4. Swarms and swarm control  
Reasons for swarming, methods of swarm control, signs of queenlessness, laying workers, uniting colonies

### Thursday 21 February

5. Pests and diseases  
Healthy brood, AFB EFB Varroa, acarine, nosema, legislation and notifiable diseases

### Thursday 14 March

6. Honey harvest  
Annual cycle, setting up an apiary, feeding bees, harvesting honey, robbing, legal requirements of bottling, labelling and selling honey

## Our next meetings are:

### Sunday 20 January 2019

Asian Hornet Evening, 7.30pm Royal British Legion, Broadstone (see over)

### Monday 21 January 2019

First training session 7pm-9pm (see above)

### Friday 25 January 2019

'All Things Bee' with Regional Bee Inspector Robin Oliver 7.30pm Broadstone Community Centre

# Asian Hornet Evenings

## Sunday 20th January and Tuesday 29th January 7.30pm

### Royal British Legion, Tudor Rd, Broadstone BH18 8AW

The Asian Hornet, *Vespa velutina*, is an aggressive predator of honey bees and other beneficial insects. It has extended its geographical range from Asia to mainland Europe following an accidental introduction into France and is now also present in Spain, Majorca, Portugal, Italy and Germany.

Adult hornets are highly mobile; the rate of spread across France is approximately 60 km/year.

The hornet was confirmed in September 2016 to be present in the UK and it was seen nine times this year including nests in Hampshire. Therefore, it is essential that EDBKA beekeepers attend one of these meetings to do everything they can to keep the hornet off our patch.

We are lucky to have our own Asian Hornet Officer in Mark White who has immersed himself in the subject including useful contacts with Jersey, where the insect is now widespread, and France. He will lead each Asian Hornet evening which will share the same content so there is only the need to come to one. It will give you a brief background to the life cycle of this insect and its identification, the current status in the UK and our plans for action. There will also be time to answer any questions you have. If, beforehand, you would like to make an Asian hornet monitoring trap that would be great!

Hanging this simple device in your apiary or garden will allow you to monitor for pest arrival, but it will trap our native hornet *Vespa crabro* and will therefore need regular monitoring to release them.

These are especially effective if used in spring when hornet queens first emerge from hibernation while they are in search of sugary foods and need to be sited from mid-February onwards.

Full instructions for its construction can be found here  
<http://www.nationalbeeunit.com/downloadNews.cfm?id=122>



## NEW MEMBERS and events

### Welcome to New Members

Rachel Bennett  
Felicity Frost  
Hilary Howorth  
Rob Howorth  
Mark Hutchings  
Peter Kirk  
Dr Steven Parlour

**Members events:**  
**Tuesday 20 January**  
Asian Hornet evening.

**Monday 21 January**  
First indoor training session.

**Friday 25 January\***  
Indoor Meeting - 'All Things Bee' - Robin Oliver

**Monday 28 January**  
Second indoor training session.

**Tuesday 29 January**  
Asian Hornet evening.

**Monday 4 February**  
Third indoor training session.

**Thursday 14 February**  
Fourth indoor training session.

**Thursday 21 February**  
Fifth indoor training session.

**Friday 22 February\***  
Indoor Meeting - 'Queen Rearing' with Jim Dunne.

**Thursday 14 March\***  
Sixth and final indoor training session.

**Friday 29 March\***  
Indoor meeting to be arranged.

\*At Broadstone Community & Arts Centre  
BH18 8AB 7.30pm.

If your EDBKA membership subscription is still due, please contact Chris Williams now to make payment - **01202 577041**

Our website: <http://www.edbka.org.uk/>

Find us on:



East Dorset Beekeeping Association c/o Hon. Secretary, Jenny Wellman,  
32 Compton Crescent, West Moors BH22 0BZ.  
Telephone: 01202 873292. Email: [jenny@jenny32.plus.com](mailto:jenny@jenny32.plus.com)