

Cumbria Bee Times

Editor: Val Sullivan, Brackenwray Farm, Kinniside, Cleator, Cumbria, CA23 3AG
Telephone: 01946 862604, e-mail:brackenwray@aol.com

(Views expressed in this newsletter are those of the editor and do not necessarily represent those of the CBKA)
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National Bee Unit Bee Health Day

Hosted by Cumbria Beekeepers
Association

Saturday August 27th 2016
At Houghton Village Hall,
9.30 -4.30

Cost £15.00 including refreshments

Contact: M.Fitzgerald,
Swallow Barn

Gilcrux
CA7 2QX

Tel: 016973 20204
mobile:07821 565793
e-mail:

linda_fitzgerald@btinternet.com

as soon as possible as places are limited This will be an invaluable day particularly for newer beekeepers who are not yet confident about recognising the great variety of diseases (including notifiable ones) which affect honey bees.

Bellingham Show and Country Festival Saturday 27th August

Has a new Honey and Beekeeping section

Class 373 2 jars of liquid honey

Class 374 2 jars of set honey

Class 375 1 shallow frame

Contact the Secretary Kate Dickinson on 07734294831

Or www.bellinghamshow.co.uk for more details

Penrith Beekeepers Microscopy Course

Taking a Closer Look at Pollen
At the Toppin Memorial Hall,
Skelton Village, near Penrith
On Sunday 11th September 2016
9.30.a.m. – 4.30.p.m.

The day will cover: How to use a microscope

Pollen: its biology
its relationship to honey bees
methods of identification

Equipment:

Microscopes will be provided, BUT please bring your own microscope with you if you would like to learn more about using it.

The equipment for making slides of pollen grains will also be provided.

Fee: £30 Concessions: PBKA Members £25

Students in full time education £10

This includes tuition and all refreshments.

Places are limited and the closing date for applications is Fri 2nd Sept.

Apply to Penrith Beekeepers via their website

Whitehaven Honey Show in conjunction with Gosforth Agricultural Show Saturday 20th August.

Classes for honey, wax and bee connected products. Several honey bee related children's classes.

A great day out for all the family

Closing date for entries 1st August

For a schedule contact

Whitehaven Social Secretary

Sarah Richards on 01946 861974

hawesfarm@hotmail.co.uk

CBKA Committee meetings

Saturday 17th September 2016
Saturday 15th October 2016
Saturday 3rd December 2016
All at Southey Street Methodist Rooms at 2.00pm

CONTACTS FOR BRANCHES

Carlisle

Fiona Roebuck
Old Town House
High Hesket
CA4 0JE
01697 473741
froebuck@btinternet.com

Penrith

Terry Phillips
terry-pbkamail@twphillips.net

Whitehaven

Grahame Pinches
41John Colligan Drive
Cleator Moor
CA25 5JX
01946 812100
grahame.pinches@googlemail.com

Cockermouth

Mike Fitzgerald
Swallow Barn
Gilcrux
CA7 2QX
016973 20204
mobile:07821 565793
linda_fitzgerald@btinternet.com

Keswick

Stephen Barnes
Albemarle St,
Cockermouth,
CA13 0BG
01900 824972
braithwaitebees@sky.com

Full details of CBKA events and Officers contacts can be found on the Cumbria Beekeepers website Cumbriabeekeepers.co.uk

There are several other non-affiliated Associations in the North West

AFB Infection

Come to the Bee Health Day to see examples
(and remember the matchstick test)



Beehivemaker

Beehives made to order
Peter Harris
Unit 8A Port Road Business Park
Carlisle
CA2 7AF
Mobile no: 07830432014

Bankhead Bee Supplies

For all your Beekeeping Requirements
Bankhead Farm, Newby East, Carlisle, CA4 8RA
Telephone:01228 573289
Your local agent for Thorne and Sherriff

New method of controlling American Foul Brood

The August edition of Beecraft reports a novel control method for Paenibacillus larvae -the bacterial infection known as American Foul Brood –a disease which is notifiable in the UK and treated by destruction of the colony by fire with the resultant loss of not just bees but hive components as well.

This experimental control has been developed by researchers at the University of Nevada in Las Vegas. USA

Viruses can only live inside living cells, using the cell contents for food, growth and replicating within the cell before killing the host cell as they burst out .

Bacteriophages are viruses which infect and kill Bacteria; they are often specific to one particular host invading only that type of bacterial cell, growing, replicating, and ultimately destroying it with no harm to surrounding cells.

The Scientists at Nevada University have experimented with bacteriophages which infect Paenibacillus. These are naturally occurring organisms which have not been genetically modified. Several different 'phages were identified and made up into "phage cocktails" subsequently freeze dried until needed (viruses can withstand freeze drying). When required the "cocktail was reconstituted in sugar syrup and fed to AFB infected colonies of bees.

The treated colonies showed improved health after 5 weeks of treatment, though none were completely free of AFB.

A further step in this research was to isolate the specific chemical (called a lysin) produced by the bacteriophages which bursts the AFB cells and use only this to treat infected bee larvae. Again there was an increased survival reported.

These are early days in this research but it is exciting to think that there may be some promising treatment evolving which may be useful in preventing such a devastating disease of honey bees.