



Kent Beekeepers Association
Sevenoaks and Tunbridge Wells Branch
Programme 2022
Indoor Meetings

January and February Meetings in the comfort of your own home, via [Zoom](#)

Wednesday 19th January

Richard Ridler **Adventures in African Beekeeping.**

A comparison between beekeeping practices in Africa compared to the UK, to give us food for thought about our own beekeeping.

Wednesday 9th February (note, the second Wednesday, not the third)

Roger Patterson **The coming season – Are you prepared?**

How often have we been caught unprepared when we find the season suddenly upon us. Roger offers some sound advice on advance planning. How to expect the unexpected

The following will be held at Weald Hall from 7.30pm

Tuesday 15th March

Andrew Gibb **Drones, the Weaker Sex**

Often dismissed as only having a single function, to mate with the queen. Is this a fair? Or should we be giving a closer consideration to our Drones?

Tuesday 19th April

Bob Smith **Pollen and Nutrition**

Pollen is clearly important for the development of the colony. But how do we know if the bees have enough. Whether it is of sufficient quality, and are supplements really necessary.

Tuesday 17th May

Vanessa Jones **Control and treatment of Varroa and Nosema**

A lot has been said recently about chemical free treatment of Varroa. That doesn't mean treatment free. Vanessa will give a complete overview of how to minimise the prevalence of varroa in your

colonies. Nosema, in its two forms, is often ignored, but forever present in your colonies. Again we are aiming to keep its infection level low.

Introduction to Beekeeping Day

Sundays 27th February, 27th March 10am to 4pm at Weald Memorial Hall

For complete beginners considering taking up beekeeping.

Covering the basics of what you need to be prepared for when embarking on this rewarding hobby.

Booking required. Contact Liz, membership@sevenoaksbeekeepers.org.uk

Basic Beekeeping course

A **Zoom** course run over seven weeks, beginning **Tuesday 15th February** intended for those within their first year of beekeeping. This will be a small informal seminar type course, discussing all forms of beekeeping, intended to give a firm understanding of beekeeping and particularly, trying to understand the bees.

Enquiries and booking contact Cliff pbhayward9@hotmail.com

Workshops at Weald Hall

Tuesday 21 June

Wax processing

A workshop that will hopefully appeal the beekeeper and their family. Demonstrations on cleaning the wax and opportunities for making candles, beeswax wraps, lip balm.

Tuesday 20 July (Provisional date)

How to harvest honey. Producing liquid, granulated, or soft set. Regulations for selling your honey and how to produce honey for showing.

Honey Show

Saturday 17th September

Please do plan to exhibit in this all for fun event.

Venue – to be confirmed

Apiary Meeting Programme

June 4th 2-5pm

A special invitation to Vanessa Jones' Apiary at Hever

Booking will be required, booking forms will be issued closer to the date.

Meetings at Barrwood and Hilbert Road

The apiary training programme has been set out to support all members through the beekeeping year. Topics may need to be replanned depending on the weather and our bees!

Barrwood dates 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month 2-4pm

Hilbert Road 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month 11am-1pm

Clearly weather will dictate some alterations to the planned programme. Check website for updates.

	Hilbert Road	Barrwood	
February	20 th	26 th	Cleaning and preparation of equipment, clearing up and general gardening duties
March	6 th 20 th	12 th 26 th	Making frames, and putting together hive parts. First of the seasons colony health check and introduction to IPM (integrated pest management)
April	3 rd No meeting	9 th 23 rd	Swarm prevention practice with empty boxes. Queen Marking, and how to find a queen
May	8 th 22 nd	14 th 28 th	Putting into practice swarm control techniques Queen raising
June	5 th 19 th	11 th 25 th	Queen raising continued Comb replacement (Shook swarm and Bailey)
July	3 rd 17 th	9 th 23 rd	Bee Health. A thorough comb inspection looking for disease
August	7 th 21 st	6 th 20 th	Honey Harvest Preparing for overwintering
September	4 th 18 th	10 th 24 th	Final Health Check, Queen selection and uniting colonies
October	2 nd	8 th	Final winter preparations.

Contacts

Chair, Barrwood apiary manager, and KBKA council rep.

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Vice Chair, Treasurer and Membership secretary

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Hilbert Road apiary manager and KBKA Council rep.

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Other committee members

Richard Rose, John Hendrie, Huw Griffiths, Martin Barrett

Non-committee positions

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Paul Abbott

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