

# What motivates the bee?

Sunday 16 November, 2pm

Lenham Community Hall

Lenham Community Hall



We are delighted that Margaret Thomas, well-known beekeeper and speaker, has agreed to talk to Kent beekeepers on two of her favourite subjects:

## What motivates the bee?

Sex, reproduction  
and the smells that go with it!

&

## The nucleus

An essential tool for good apiary management.

Tickets are available in advance for **£4**  
or on the day for **£5**.

Cheques for advance tickets should be made payable to KBKA.  
Please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope and send to:

Terry Hardy, 6 Springrove Cottages, Goudhurst Road  
Marden TN12 9JU

Telephone 01622 832066 for information.

Refreshments are included in the entry fee.

## KENT BEE-KEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

A company limited by guarantee, Registered No. 238630 Registered Charity No. 222946  
Registered Office: National Beekeeping Centre, RASE, Stoneleigh Park, Kenilworth. CV8 2LG



No. 40

COUNTY NEWSLETTER

October 2008

### New KBKA Website

Thanks to Steve Turner we have a new website on [www.kentbee.com](http://www.kentbee.com). Branch Secretary's, or their nominated person will be given publishing rights for their Branch part of the website. Have a look at what Bromley and Orpington have done. No excuse not to be up to date now! Branch secretary's have already been sent information on how to obtain access. Any comments about how to improve the website to Steve please at [st@zbee.com](mailto:st@zbee.com).

Thank you Steve

Margaret Thomas 16<sup>th</sup> November 2008

### PROGRAMME

**Doors open at 1.30pm**

**2.00pm What motivates the bee?**

Pheromones are an intriguing topic and Margaret will be giving an enlightening talk.

**3.30pm** Break for refreshments and a chat.

**4.00pm The nucleus**

We all need to make nuclei at some stage and this lecture will discuss the practical uses and some good advice on producing them.

### *Included in the programme*

Refreshments

Prize draw – as part of your entry fee you will be automatically entered into the Prize Draw - the winner will receive a £20 book voucher.

Bookstall – books supplied by Northern Bee Books. (No credit card payments)

BIBBA information stand.

Equipment stand – an opportunity to stock up or buy a Christmas present for your favourite beekeeper (or maybe yourself).

From the A20 Ashford to Maidstone road take the High Street into Lenham village. Take the second road on the left (Old Ashford Road) then take the next left. The postcode for the hall is ME17 2QF There is ample parking at the hall.

## CALENDAR October– December 2008

### Branch Events

#### Ashford

- Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct 7:30 pm - meeting at St Mary's Community Centre, Rylands Road, Kennington.  
Fri 7<sup>th</sup> Nov 7:30 pm - meeting at St Mary's Community Centre, Rylands Road, Kennington.  
Fri 5<sup>th</sup> Dec 7:30 pm - AGM at St Mary's Community Centre, Rylands Road, Kennington.

#### Bromley

- Sun 5<sup>th</sup> Oct 11:30 am Morning apiary meeting. Refreshments provided.  
Sun 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov 11:30 am Morning apiary meeting. Refreshments provided.  
Tues 18<sup>th</sup> Nov 7:30 pm Annual General Meeting.  
Sun 7<sup>th</sup> Dec 11:30 am Morning apiary meeting. Refreshments provided.  
Meetings at the Branch Clubhouse, Kent House Road allotments.  
Opposite Woodbastwick road, 91a, Kent House, Sydenham, Kent

#### Canterbury

- Wed 8<sup>th</sup> Oct 7:30 pm Mary Hill Preparing Honey for Sale and for Show.  
Wed 12<sup>th</sup> Nov 7:30 pm AGM and Film Show  
Wed 10<sup>th</sup> Dec 7:30 pm Talk by John Hendrie from Sevenoaks and Tunbridge Wells Branch.  
All meetings at Stelling Minnis Village Hall.

**Dartford** - No meetings notified.

#### Gravesend

- Sun in Oct 3:00 pm Brian Wood—Bee things to make this winter  
Sat 29<sup>th</sup> Nov Branch Annual General Meeting.  
For venues and directions contact Lesley Fancote 01474 702666.

**Mid Kent** - No meetings notified.

#### Orpington

- Wed 8<sup>th</sup> Oct 8:00 pm John Williams speaking on 'Darwin's Bees'.  
Atomwide Ltd. 2 Ravensquay Business Centre, Cray Avenue, Orpington, Kent. BR5 4BQ

#### Sevenoaks & Tunbridge Wells

- Tues 21<sup>st</sup> Oct 7:30 pm. Peter Hutton on 'Techniques for swarm collection and housing'.  
Tues 18<sup>th</sup> Nov 7:30 pm Annual General Meeting.  
Meetings at Quakers Meeting House, 30 Hollybush Lane, Sevenoaks. .

#### Sidcup

- Meetings every Saturday at 2:00 pm Ruxley Apiary, Honeydale Farm, Maidstone Road, Sidcup, DA14 5AW until 22<sup>nd</sup> November then 6<sup>th</sup> December.  
Sat 29<sup>th</sup> Nov 2:00 pm AGM at St Lawrence Community Centre, Hamilton Road, Sidcup.

#### Weald

- Sat 25<sup>th</sup> Oct Cosmetics and polish made with beeswax, Jennifer Mengham  
Sat 15<sup>th</sup> Nov Round up of the year.  
Sat 6<sup>th</sup>-Dec AGM and Christmas Lunch.  
Ring Nick Mengham for details and directions 01233 840660.

#### Westerham

- Wed 19<sup>th</sup> Nov 8:00 pm. AGM at Westerham Hall, Quebec Avenue, Westerham.

**Whitstable** - No meetings notified.

## County and Other Events

- 4<sup>th</sup> October BBKA Forum at Stoneleigh.  
11<sup>th</sup> October Council Meeting, 10:00 am at Detling Village Hall.  
30<sup>th</sup> Oct- 1<sup>st</sup> Nov National Honey Show at St Georges College, Weybridge, Surrey.  
Sun 16<sup>th</sup> Nov 2:00 pm. At Lenham Community Centre Margaret Thomas NDB from Essex as guest lecturer will give two talks. Details in this newsletter.  
Council Meeting at 10:00 am at Margaret Calder Pavilion, Detling.  
13<sup>th</sup> December BBKA Annual Delegates Meeting at Stoneleigh.  
Sat 10<sup>th</sup> Jan 2009 Central Association Spring meeting and AGM at Vauxhall, London.  
Sat 14<sup>th</sup> March BBKA written examinations.  
Sat 21<sup>st</sup> March 2009 County Show at Detling.  
17<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> July

## OXALIC ACID TREATMENT

Are you planning an Oxalic Acid treatment of your colonies this winter? Should you be I have a very special offer which I hope will be of interest. By good fortune I have obtained a substantial number of veterinary automatic dosing guns which are new and in their original packaging. They are



adjustable in the one to ten ml range and are therefore ideal for accurate metering of dilute Oxalic Acid solution. One press of the trigger and the selected dose (probably five ml) issues from the nozzle, release the trigger and the gun is recharged. All this for just £3, and the best part is that your total payment is shared by three charities. They are Demelza Children's Hospice, Kent Air Ambulance and Bees Abroad. It would be preferable if purchases could be co-ordinated by a Branch official or I would be pleased to post on receipt of your name, address and a cheque made out to W.F. Wood at South Stour Apiary, Cheeseman's Green, Mersham, Ashford, Kent. TN25 7HX tel: 01233 503074. Full Instructions included The price including postage is £4 50p

## Feeding Bees

There is information being circulated indicating that some sugar beet may be treated with neonicotinides during production. This is probably another reason to consider using sugar sourced from sugar cane. Tate & Lyle and Fair-Trade sugar are normally produced from sugar cane, just check what is written on the packet. Feeding should be completed by mid October to ensure the syrup is capped in the cells to avoid possible fermentation. Bees have great difficulty in capping stores when the weather is cold. Some colonies are quite short of stores where they have been breeding rapidly in the warm last two weeks in September. Other colonies seem to have collected well from the ivy and balsam. You must check and feed appropriate quantities of sugar.

**Visit the NEW Kent Beekeepers web site:** [www.kentbee.com](http://www.kentbee.com)

**Meetings in the next issue of the Calendar will cover December - February and please note that all details should be sent to John Hendrie, KBKA General Secretary, 26 Coldharbour Lane, Hildenborough TN11 9JT or email: [bibba26@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:bibba26@tiscali.co.uk) or 01732 833894, by 20<sup>th</sup> Nov with items for inclusion in the next issue. Many thanks.**