

# WDBKA Newsletter, January 2019, Happy New Year to all our members and friends of the apiary

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## Teaching Apiary News:

There isn't much news from the apiary at this time of year, other than the roof of the shed has sustained further damage in the recent storms – further repairs have been carried out as a temporary solution, by Peter Broadbent, Richard and Grahame but the roof will have to be replaced at some point during the coming year. The wet weather has prevented much gardening taking place, but we plan to put down some weed-suppressing fabric in parts of the garden to clear some of the more troublesome weeds.

## AGM on November 16th 2018 at 7.00pm.

There was a brief Extra-ordinary General Meeting at 7.00pm to vote on an additional clause to the W&DBK Constitution to provide for the requirements of the new Data Protection Regulations. This was carried unanimously. The Annual General Meeting then followed with 17 people in attendance. Apologies were given by 8 people.

Val Sullivan stood down as acting Chair, but will remain on the Committee as grounds and garden manager. Grahame Pinches has been elected as the new Chair in her place. Debbie Keighley was elected as the new Secretary.

Richard Robinson and Piers Manson continue as Treasurer and Membership Secretary respectively and Sarah Richards will continue as Newsletter Secretary. Peter Broadbent also remains on the Committee. Maggie Sewell has resigned from the committee and Karen James has been elected as her replacement.

There was a discussion about the annual membership subscription which has remained unchanged for several years. Although the committee suggested that the cost could remain unchanged, several members argued that, as the BBKA are planning to increase their subscription, the cost of membership of WBKA should be increased this year (see below for details). This will help to maintain our funds, and allow for the cost of replacing the roof of the apiary shed.

Sarah Dockwray expressed interest in having a Facebook page for Whitehaven Beekeepers as a closed group. Derek Roberts and several other members are interested in preparing for the BBKA Basic Assessment in Beekeeping. The committee agreed to discuss how to facilitate both of these issues at the next committee meeting.

## Subscriptions for Membership of W&DBKA for 2019:

Subscriptions for 2019 are now due. The costs, as agreed at the AGM are as follows;

Individual membership	£30.00
Family Membership	£35.00
Friend of the apiary	£5.00 (unchanged)

The new membership form is available at [www.whitehavenbeekeepers.co.uk](http://www.whitehavenbeekeepers.co.uk). In order that we can comply with the new Data Protection Regulations, please can all members download and complete a form, and return it, together with their subscription to Piers Manson, Membership Secretary, W&DBKA, 56 Meadowfield, Gosforth, Seascale, Cumbria

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CA20 1HU. N.B. Your subscription with provide BDI insurance for up to 3 hives. If you have more than 3 hives, and wish to have full BDI cover, please add the appropriate sum to your basic subscription.(see membership form for full details)

## Fondant for Sale

The association still has plenty of fondant available for winter feeding. One slab of fondant costs £3.50, or a box of 5 slabs costs £15.00. Please contact Val Sullivan at [brackenwray@aol.com](mailto:brackenwray@aol.com), or telephone 01946 862604 if you would like to buy some.

## Cumbria Bee Times (CBT)

Val Sullivan was the editor of the Cumbria Bee Times from May 2009 until the end of 2018. There has been a delay in finding a new editor but Ian Gregory from Carlisle Beekeepers has now taken over and copies of the CBT are available via the following link.

[http://www.cumbriabeekeepers.co.uk/cumbria\\_bee\\_times.htm](http://www.cumbriabeekeepers.co.uk/cumbria_bee_times.htm)

## W&DBKA events Spring 2019:

There will be a demonstration of the trickle method of treating the bees with oxalic acid at the apiary, at some time in mid-January. This will be weather dependant, so will happen at short notice. If you attend this meeting, please bring your own bee-suit as the apiary suits are being stored elsewhere over the winter.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> March: Frame-making at Lamplugh Village Hall, 14.00 -16.00

This is an opportunity to make frames for your own hives, and catch up with other beekeepers at the same time. **You can bring along your own materials, or let me know how many you need, and the committee will put in a bulk order.**

### 30<sup>th</sup> March: Stand making at Lamplugh Village Hall, 14.00 – 17.00

If you need more stands for your apiary, Peter Broadbent will provide pre-cut wooden kits to assemble during the afternoon, at an estimated cost of £10.00 - £12.00 each. **As above, please let me know in advance how many stands you would like to build.**

DATE/VENUE	EVENT	NOTES
Mid Jan The teaching apiary	Oxalic acid treatment	*This will be at short notice for members. Bring own bee suits.
2 <sup>nd</sup> March. Lamplugh Village Hall 2-4pm	Frame-making	Members make own. Can either bring materials or ask for them to be bulk ordered.
Lamplugh Village Hall 2-5pm	Stand-making	Cost of materials estimated to be £10 - £12.00 for a pre-cut wooden stand to be put together during the afternoon