



Warwick and Leamington Branch of Warwickshire Beekeepers

Membership Renewal for 2017

It's that time of year again for Members to renew their membership of Warwick and Leamington Beekeepers for 2017. In the case of all classes of member except Associates, this will automatically cover your renewal with Warwickshire Beekeepers' Association and the British Beekeepers' Association.

Having completed a renewal form, which you will find on our website after December 1st, please ensure you pay your subscription, rates being: Full Members inclusive of insurance for up to 3 colonies* - £45.00, Partner Members - £20.30, Junior Members £16.00, Associate Members - £5.00. £13.00 should be added to the subscription of Full, Junior and Associate Members if newsletters are required by Royal Mail as opposed to Email

* Full Members should add £2.00 additional insurance for up to 5 colonies, £5.25 for up to 10 colonies, £7.75 for up to 15 colonies, £9.50 for up to 20 colonies and £11.10 for up to 25 colonies - all inclusive of the first 3.

For a full explanation of the subscription structure, please go to <http://www.warleambees.org.uk/wlbk-subscription-rates/>

BACS payments should be made to A/C No 00173056, sort code 30-94-93, A/C Name Warwick & Leamington Spa Branch of WBKA, a registered charity. Cheques should be made out to W & L Beekeepers and sent to Mrs Val Dillon, Oak Tree Cottage, Cryfield Grange Road, Kenilworth, CV8 2JU Subscriptions are due by 31 December 2016.

It is of note that the Branch, County, BBKA and Bee Diseases Insurance rates are unchanged for 2017.

Notice of Annual General Meeting

The Branch AGM will take place from 7.30pm on Thursday 16 February 2017 at BBKA, Stoneleigh. If any member wishes to make any proposals at the AGM they are requested to notify the Acting Branch Secretary by 15 December 2016 (e-mail; secretary@warleambees.org.uk or 07836668439).

Nominations for Election to the Branch Executive Committee

Members are also invited to put their names forward to the Acting Branch Secretary for election to the Executive Committee at the 2017 AGM. The Executive Committee normally meets 6 times a year at Stoneleigh in the evening. The purpose of the Executive Committee is to determine general policy, plan and implement our range of activities and services and to monitor and control income and expenditure. The Executive Committee will have some vacancies in 2017, which we regard as a positive situation in that it ensures traditional ideas are questioned and new ideas are considered.

Influencing the branch's progress is rewarding and as a member of the committee you will learn more about how the Branch, County Association and the BBKA function. Members of the Committee take on responsibility for some aspects of the branch's activity. If you would like your name put forward, or to learn more about the role please contact the:

Acting Branch Secretary Chris Cox by e-mail; secretary@warleambees.org.uk or 07836668439

Members' Meeting – 12th January 2017

Things can often seem a bit flat after the Christmas and New Year festivities but beekeepers are nothing if not optimists and to set ourselves up for the forthcoming season we are delighted to have Steven Falk as our guest speaker at the members' meeting on **January 12th at BBKA HQ, Stoneleigh Park at 7.30 pm**. Steven is a renowned local entomologist specialising especially in pollinators. He has recently published a *Field Guide to the Bees of Great Britain and Ireland*, which has been received with much acclaim, and has authored over 200 other publications including the definitive *Warwickshire Wildflowers* and a comprehensive catalogue of Warwickshire Trees

In a varied career he spent 11 years as Senior Keeper of Natural History at Warwickshire Museum where he was much involved with the observation hive maintained by this Branch as well as being Keeper of Natural History and the City Ecologist at Coventry Museum. He is now an independent consultant. An accomplished artist and photographer, he has illustrated many of his own and other author's publications and adopts the philosophy in his publications and presentations of keeping things visual, engaging and (where possible) accessible to all no matter how technical or scientific as those who have been on his "bug" safaris can readily testify. So, shake off those winter blues and come along for what promises to be a really interesting evening.

Honey and Sherry Drizzle Cake

For the Cake

6 oz honey
4 oz soft brown sugar
5 oz butter or margarine
2 eggs
7 oz self raising flour

Put the honey, sugar, butter and 1 tbsp water into saucepan.

Warm until butter is melted.

Remove from heat beat in the eggs.

Stir in the sifted flour.

Grease and line a 7" – 8" cake tin.

Cook in moderate oven for 45 – 55 mins

Leave in tin for 5 minutes, then put on tray with plate underneath.

Warm together the honey and sherry and drizzle over the cake

For the Drizzle

2 tbsp Honey
3 tbsp Sherry

Honey Shortbread Biscuits

4 oz Butter
6 oz Plain Flour
1 tsp Ginger
1 oz Honey

Rub butter into the flour.

Add ginger and honey and mix together to make biscuit dough.

Roll out thinly then cut onto rounds.

Bake in medium oven for about 10 mins until lightly browned.

Transfer to cooling tray

2 Recipes you may like to try then enjoy

Roger

Hints and Tips

- Well it is about -4°C outside and here I am thinking what I can do from the comfort of my warm front room!
- Firstly I have just paid my association membership so I can be sure that I have the continuity of insurance cover and membership.
- Now I am going to check on BeeBase to make sure that the colony numbers are up-to-date and that the apiary location details are all correct
- I think planning your equipment needs for the coming season is a really good way to be prepared. It also means that if you plan ahead, as far as is possible, then you can take advantage of the winter sales that are coming up.
- So now I feel really smug at what I have achieved without even going out and am going to curl up and read those books I bought last year!!

- HAPPY NEW YEAR

•

If you have any hints or tips that you would like to share, please send them to h.essex@virgin.net...
Thank you Helen Essex

Editor Roger Wilkes, email address is roger.wilkes@kenilworthhoney.co.uk or hard copy can be posted to him at:

12 Mercia Avenue, Kenilworth CV8 1EU. **Content to him for next month by January 27th latest.**

Please send in plain text, unformatted, using Microsoft Word or another common program.

BeeTalk is: Designed, produced, printed and distributed by Roger Wilkes

Warwick and Leamington Branch
of Warwickshire Beekeepers Association
Reg Charity No. 500276 www.warleambees.org.uk