



# BIBBA Buzz January 2015

The Buzz will be issued every month if possible, apart from when the Bee Improvement Magazine is issued. We will try to ensure that it is issued about the same time every month. If you don't want it you can unsubscribe by using the link at the foot of the email. If you do want BIBBA Buzz – what do you think of it so far? If in the words of Eric (Morecambe) it's "Rubbish" please let me know what would make it better. If you think it's OK what would make it even better?

**Roy Norris**

## **BIBBA Conference Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> - Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2016. Isle of Man.**

The venue is booked and the programme is taking shape. Lots of Information is on the BIBBA website <http://bibba.com/conference/> Please check back regularly.

We have confirmed **Randy Oliver**, who although he is a Californian beekeeper with 1,200 colonies, he has a lot of beekeeping knowledge that will be relevant to our beekeeping.

Take a look at his website <http://scientificbeekeeping.com/> and Dave Cushman's website, where there is a page about him <http://www.dave-cushman.net/bee/randyoliver.html>

It will be your responsibility to book your accommodation and travel arrangements.

### **Conference fees** are as follows:-

Day rate:- £30 (£35) for BIBBA members, £35 (£40) for non-members.

Full Conference:- £80 (£95) for members, £95 (£110) non-members.

Prices above are for "Early bird" discount, with the higher rate charged after 1st August 2016, so book early. We will let you know when bookings are open.

### **Bee Improvement for All (BIFA) Days**

Venues so far for 2016 are:-

Sat 16th January:	Welwyn Garden City	Hosts: Hertfordshire BKA
Sat 30th January:	Ferndown	Hosts: Bournemouth & Dorset South BKA
Sat 6th February:	Madeley, Nr Crewe	Hosts: North Staffordshire BKA
Sat 13 February:	Maidenhead	Hosts: South Chilterns BKA
Sat 20th February:	Llanelwedd, Builth Wells	Hosts: Brecknock & Radnor BKA
Sun 21st February:	Lampeter	Hosts: Lampeter BKA
Sun 28th February:	Southampton	Hosts: Southampton & District BKA
Sun 13th March:	Epping	Hosts: Epping Forest BKA
Sat 19th March:	Donyatt, Ilminster	Hosts: South West Div of Somerset BKA
Sun 20th March:	Gwent, Usk	Hosts: Gwent BKA

### **One and two day Bee Improvement courses**

These went so well we have been asked by hosting BKAs for repeats in two venues in 2016. These are apiary based, using simple methods that are available to use and be understood by all beekeepers, whatever levels of knowledge and ability. Please check the [BIBBA](http://bibba.com) website for dates and venues.

**Extra Coursea:** The two day course at Steve Rose's in North Wales was filled within 48 hours of opening bookings. A second course has been arranged:

**Two day course: Wed 1st June and Thurs 2nd June; 09:30 to 16:30 both days at Steve Rose's at Cilgwri.** See:- <http://bibba.com/event/queen-rearing-north-wales/>

There are other courses being organised. Please check the website regularly.

If you would like either a BIFA day or an improvement course in your area, contact Roger Patterson or ask your association to get in touch at [roger-patterson@btconnect.com](mailto:roger-patterson@btconnect.com) or phone 01403 790 637.

**BIODIVERSITY and LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS:** Halting the Decline of Bees and Other Pollinators in the UK 18<sup>th</sup> Nov 2015 at Grange Wellington Hotel, 71 Vincent Sq. London Very useful report, lots of support for BIBBA's raison d'être from IBRA. See:- <http://bibba.com/biodiversity-and-local-partnerships/>

**The next international SICAMM** (International Association for the Protection of the European Dark Bee) **Conference**:- "The Dark Bee Project" will be held in Lunteren, the Netherlands, in conjunction with the Dutch organisation De Duurzame Bij ("The Sustainable Bee") from 20th-23rd October 2016. Offers of papers or posters will be welcome: see: <http://www.sicamm.org/NextConf.html> .

**Buying Bees?** Thinking of buying in bees for 2016 – might be worth thinking again – see:- <http://bibba.com/542/> Also useful when others tell you that buying in is the way to go.

**Progress on Dark Bees in Scotland.** Excellent report which shows the value of persistence after a failure in the first year. See:- <http://bibba.com/a-native-dark-bee-breeding-project/>

### **Beekeeping Sayings (almost)**

These amuse me:-

- If you do what you always do - you'll get what you always got!
- I was boasting about having kept bees for 20 years when a voice from the rear of the room muttered, "a pity that it was his first year repeated 20 times!"

Tell us your favourite amusing beekeeping aphorism – no prizes, just a bit of fun...

### **News From Wales**

Cardiff University experts analysed the honey created by bees from 250 Welsh hives to find plants they had visited with high antimicrobial properties. They uncovered a honey in Gwynedd "as potent" as New Zealand's famed Manuka. See:- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-34965010>

### **More on Pesticide Research Findings**

Pollen of oilseed rape and wildflowers growing nearby contained a wide range of pesticides. Pollen collected by honeybees and bumblebees also contained a broad range of pesticides. Pesticide exposure of bumblebee colonies in urban areas was lower than in rural areas. See:-

<http://goo.gl/y2JoqA>

### **API News**

For an international perspective on bees, beekeeping and research you might want to sign up at:-

<http://newsletter.apinews.com/>

I need to add the usual disclaimers: The content of the Buzz is the responsibility of the compiler; any views expressed are personal and should not be taken as reflecting those of BIBBA or its Trustees. No product is endorsed by BIBBA or the compiler, if a product or service is mentioned it is up to the user to make their own enquiries.

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