

Hi All Members

### News

Lorraine Johnstone, SRUC Bee Adviser, spoke at our October meeting. Her topic was all things pollination and she has kindly sent us her presentation, which you will find attached. Unfortunately there were a lot of apologies for this meeting and it wasn't particularly well attended, which was disappointing given that Lorraine had travelled from Annan on a Sunday morning.

Following our attendance at Wigtown Show we have had an offer of a potential apiary site near Glenluce. Let me know if you are interested and I'll pass on the contact details

*Our initial plans involve converting a 1/3 Hectare area into a nature area, including a pond, trees, shrubs and flowering plants. The reason that we are e-mailing is to invite input from the Western Galloway Beekeepers Association with a view to creating a Bee friendly space, that might be suitable for a member of your Association to site bee hives.*

Our 2023 Honey Show has been postponed, due to some sad circumstances. Hopefully we can reschedule for early 2024 so keep a hold of those jars of honey/frames of honey/ wax creations etc. – we'll keep you posted. Schedule will be sent to you soon.

December meeting will be a bit different this year following our 2022 AGM members survey. We will have a Christmas lunch at Craignelder Hotel on 10<sup>th</sup> December. I will be in touch with further details soon, along with a note of how to book your place.

We will run a beginners course again in early 2024. Watch this space.

### Bee jobs this month

Our bees should be well set up for winter

- Top insulation
- Plenty stores in the brood box
- Feeding fondant if required (not syrup)
- Varroa insert in or out, depending on your preference!!
- Queen excluders removed
- Mouse guards on
- Hive equipment checked and is sounds
- Hives well strapped down

Varroa treatment – if you have treatment in, remember to remove it within the withdrawal period (usually 6 – 8 weeks) otherwise varroa may develop resistance to the treatment

BeeBase – update your hive count record

Use some of the wax you have recovered to make some great gifts for Christmas and maybe for a Honey Show entry

Watch the SBA regular webinars – as usual some interesting subjects

### Committee activity

The committee will meet in early January. We have a fair bit to discuss including rescheduled Honey Show, speakers for the Jan/Feb/Mar meetings and the Beginners course

### Meetings dates for your diary

26<sup>th</sup> November – Kevin Cowle talks – “what’s in your toolbox” and/or “taking bees to the heather”

10<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas lunch at the Craignelder, Stranraer

28<sup>th</sup> January

25<sup>th</sup> February

31<sup>st</sup> March

Happy Beekeeping!

Linda  
Chair