



Aberdeen & District Beekeepers' Association (SCIO)

Convention 2018
Saturday 17th November. 10am until 6pm

Kinnellar Hall, Blackburn AB21 0JQ
Tickets £25 via [Eventbrite](#)

9:30 Tea and coffee

10:00 Introduction

10:15 - Session 1 - How bees perceive the world – the senses of the bee,
Pam Hunter

Compares the outer skeleton of the bee with the internal skeleton of mammals and what problems and advantages this brings. Describes how the bee sees, smells, hears, tastes, touches and feels. With the exception of the eyes, all of these senses occur all over the body. Illustrated with a wide range of pictures.

11:00 – Short break

11:15 - Session 2 -Communication in bees,
John Hendrie

This talk will consider how bees in a colony communicate with each other to manage life in the colony.

Most of the talk will look at chemical communications (Pheromones) and the tasks in a bees life where these are essential.

We will look at the interaction between queen and workers and how their lives are managed by pheromones.

12:30 – Lunch with tea, coffee and soft drinks

13:15 - Session 3 – When the king became a queen,
Pam Hunter

Describes how the strange life of the honey bee colony mystified generations from the ancient Greeks who thought that young bees were found in olive trees, through Aristotle who believed the 'leader' was a male to a gradual realisation of workers being female and the 'leader' a female or Queen. This happened in conjunction with the discovery of sex in plants and the acceptance of the bees' role in pollination. Includes an unusual way of 'making bees', so forget raising queen cells!

14:00 – Short Break

14:15 – Session 4 - Spring Management,
John Hendrie

When colonies can be inspected in the spring and how the beekeeper should be managing the colony after the winter period.

The talk will consider tasks in the apiary from January to April.

15:15 - Beekeepers Question Time

A chance to pitch your questions to our two speakers, and to Enid Brown, Scottish Beekeepers Shows and Publicity Officer.

16:00 – Tea, coffee and soft drinks

Honey Show trophy presentation

Demonstration of a successful Beevac 'design' and solar wax melters.

18:00 - Close

Details of Speakers

John Hendrie

BSc. MRSC, Master Beekeeper

As the Moderator for the British Beekeepers Association Examinations Board John Hendrie is ultimately responsible for the syllabuses and examinations of the BBKA. He has been a member of the Examinations Board for many years having been the Board secretary from 1991 to 2006. A beekeeper for over 50 years, he achieved his Master Beekeeper certificate in 1986 and has been heavily involved in beekeeping education ever since, running courses and lecturing widely in the United Kingdom and Ireland on bees and beekeeping. John is the General Secretary of the National Honey Show and has been on the committee for 35 years; he also judges at local honey shows. In his working career he was a Laboratory Manager for the Environment Agency and was responsible for the quality of the chemical analyses produced by his laboratory.

Pam Hunter

C. Biol. F. Roy. Soc. Biol. FLS. Master Beekeeper

By profession Pam Hunter is a microbiologist who has spent three decades in the pharmaceutical industry engaged in research into new antimicrobial agents. Currently she is the chair of the Examination Board and a trustee of BBKA and the manager of the Research, Technical and Environmental committee. She is also a member of BIBBA and of the Central Association. Pam has been keeping bees since 1990 and currently manages six to eight hives at her home in Sussex. Her talks focus on various aspects of bees, plants and beekeeping, including the interaction of plants, bees and the environment as well as the more biological/scientific aspects of bees and beekeeping history.

Enid Brown

Enid Brown has been keeping bees for 25 years, following in the footsteps of her father and grandfather. Presently she manages 40 colonies. When she is not producing her own honey, she enjoys judging it and holds the Scottish and BBKA honey judge certificates. She also supports the National Honey show in London, holding the position of judges' referee. Additionally, she is a member of the Apimondia committee, which runs the world beekeeping awards.