

ROSELAND BEEKEEPING GROUP

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This has been my first year as Programme Organiser and I hope members are happy with the talks and events that I have arranged. It is my view that this is a role which should be regularly passed between members of the group to ensure a fresh outlook and new ideas every couple of years or so. Please bear this in mind as at the AGM in 2017 we will be looking for someone else to take on this role. It is quite a nice job as it involves some intensive planning work but over a short period and then you can sit back and "relax" for the rest of the 12 months.

There is nothing really further to report about the Programme other than to repeat a request to members for feedback. I need to know what you think of the speakers, the format of the programme, what other events you would like to see, contact details of speakers you have heard elsewhere who you think would be good for us, etc. I want to know what you really think (positive or negative) so that I can use this information to inform my choices for our 2016/2017 programme. I want to make sure you get what you want and that we continue to have excellent attendance at our meetings in Probus.

Personally, I have very much enjoyed hearing from our speakers so far. They have all been very complimentary about the group and think we are very lucky to have such a diverse and enthusiastic colony of members. Each speaker has brought something to us and also taken a positive experience away for themselves. I am sure the individuals involved won't mind if I share this heart-warming story with you: When Ian Richards set out from Callington on a dreary January afternoon to come and talk to us about "Bees for Development", little did he know that he would see at our meeting the inspirational teacher Dennis Keam who he last had contact with in 1977 and who "changed his life" and gave him the confidence and information he needed to pursue a teaching career of his own. Sometimes life throws these wonderful coincidences at you and I for one got very tearful.

We still have Richard Ball with his Varroa Update (is that something to look forward to?!) and also Melanie Camp talking about Bumblebees to come. Sadly, Ian McCarthy is not able to give his presentation after the AGM as he is working abroad. I will try and re-schedule. I am working on alternative "entertainment".

Rose Hardisty, Programme Organiser