



# European Association for Bee Research

## Newsletter Number 5

March 2008

<http://www.eurbee.org>

This newsletter aims at giving information about existing research networks and institutions, possible collaborations, forthcoming meetings and other news that can facilitate cooperation in research on bees.

Contributions are welcome and should be addressed to:  
r.paxton@qub.ac.uk

Details about membership should be addressed to:  
dorothea.brueckner@uni-bremen.de

Membership fees were included in the conference fee to the 2<sup>nd</sup> EurBee Conference in Prague, 11-14 September 2006. If you attended the Prague meeting, you have paid automatically for membership of EurBee until the next 2008 meeting (i.e. you paid for two years).

For those not attending the conference, payment by bank transfer (only) can be made to:

account number: 0805108303  
at the Postbank Hannover (German bank code: 250 100 30)  
BIC: PB NK DE FF  
IBAN: DE83 2501 0030 0805 1083 03  
name: Dorothea Brückner/Eurbee

The annual fee is euro 10.

We kindly ask Members of EurBee **to make EurBee more widely known within their country**, especially where only few researchers from a country have had the opportunity to attend the Conference in Prague in September 2006.

**In this issue:**

1. Information on EurBee's official journal, Apidologie
2. Dr Eva Crane
3. IBRA and Journal of Apicultural Research
4. EurBee3 conference at Belfast, UK, 8-11 September 2008

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**1. Annales de l'Abeille and Apidologie**

<http://www.apidologie.org>

The whole archive of Annales de l'Abeille (1958-1968) and Apidologie (1970---) has been digitalized thanks to INRA funding and is now freely accessible for everybody on the journal website:

In particular all special issues can be found within the dedicated section.

Christiane Courant, Managing editor of Apidologie

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**2. Dr Eva Crane**

It is with great sadness that we report the death of Dr Eva Crane on 6 September 2007. As an internationally acclaimed author on the history of beekeeping and bee research, and director of the International Bee Research Association for 35 years, she will be much missed. A short tribute to her and her work is planned for the EurBee3 conference (see below).

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**3. A new role for IBRA**

[www.ibra.org.uk](http://www.ibra.org.uk)

The last decade has been a turbulent time for the International Bee Research Association. To find the right and appropriate course while keeping the guiding principles set by Dr Eva Crane has been a challenge. High-speed developments in the world of IT have left us, along with many others, gasping in an effort to catch up and adapt. Some say, probably rightly, we were unique: serving a purpose and fulfilling a need for the dissemination of specialist

knowledge in the decades after World War II when there was a strong demand for information about bees and beekeeping that was not being met. Scientific information was difficult to search and difficult to obtain. IBRA met this demand by publishing abstracts, journals and books. It also created a specialist library, collected a large archive of beekeeping artefacts and ran conferences. IBRA was invaluable and ahead of its time in making information easily available but some may say that we have now outlived our usefulness. They are wrong.

Information has never been so plentiful or access to information so easy and open. Words and opinions come cheaply and span the world at the click of a mouse. Researchers search the scientific literature with large commercial databases covering the whole of science or biology and small specialist services have disappeared. The research journals they use tend to be supplied as part of large subscription packages covering hundreds of journals. Many academic societies now have their journals published for them by large publishing companies because publishing their own journals is no longer cost-effective. Most research information is now supplied online and so the use of libraries is declining.

IBRA remains unique and as long as researchers and thinking beekeepers seek the truth of good proven science then they will appreciate the beacon that is IBRA, and the pages of our journal that reflect that light. But high standards and truth are costly commodities. IBRA regretfully has had to suspend production of **Apicultural Abstracts** due to a combination of falling circulation and increasing costs. This will be a sad loss to the world of apiculture, as we believe that approximately 60% of the 1300+ abstracts listed every year were only to be found in this IBRA publication. There is no other equivalent that serves bees and bee science. The only way this work could continue is with the help of commercial sponsorship or an EU grant. There seems to be funding for research but little for making easy access to literature reviews that should form the starting point of any worthwhile research!

The same commercial pressures mean that we are incorporating **Bee World**, which was first published in June 1919, into **Journal of Apicultural Research** that dates from January 1962 and now is born again in 2006 and will be published for IBRA by a US publishing house. This will be the Association's journal and will be available quarterly. It represents exceptional value as a peer reviewed scientific journal with high ratings costing only £40.00 a year.

IBRA aims to change in order to meet the new demands of the twenty first century and move away from declining activities that are duplicated elsewhere. IBRA remains committed to its original aim of "the advancement of the science of apiology", but can now be better achieve that aim by facilitating the collection, publication and dissemination of information about bees and beekeeping. For example, it has already been responsible for excellent texts such as **Form and Function in the Honey Bee** and **Honey and Healing**. In its new role it could

subsidise the publication of many more similarly needed books and CDs on topics where current information is sparse or unsatisfactory.

The Eva Crane Library of books, journals, reprints, photographs, videos and classic glass slides will be moved to the National Library of Wales at Aberystwyth. This library of international standing will provide a safer and more secure environment for the collections. The current storage conditions have been considered unsatisfactory for many years. The library will now be accessible to all visitors and internet users, and photocopies will continue to be available on request. The collection will have world-wide accessibility and will be maintained by professional trained librarians.

Many members may not be aware that IBRA owns a museum collection of around 2,000 artefacts related to bees and beekeeping. It has been stored in boxes for many years and has not been on view. We have nearly completed an exciting project to produce a database of digital photographs of the whole collection, including a collection of over 1,000 old magic lantern slides in the Eva Crane Library. A series of CDs of these photographs that will make the museum widely accessible for the first time in virtual form is now being planned. The museum will then be loaned to the International Beekeeping Museum at Eeklo in Belgium, which is run by the Province of East Flanders, where it will be possible to display much of the collection to the general public.

Although the library and museum were not the main objects of IBRA, their maintenance has caused a considerable financial strain and required a large storage space with appropriate staff and offices in a prime city location. Now that more suitable homes have been found for both, we plan to sell the headquarters in Cardiff to release funds for our new role. IBRA will still maintain an office and Richard Jones will continue as Charity Administrator.

These changes may seem radical and a departure from what many see as IBRA's traditional activities, although they are very much within the remit of our founding Memorandum of Association. The new role as a grant-giving trust provides a sustainable future with the flexibility to respond to the changing international needs for information about bees and beekeeping. In addition, the library and museum will be stored in more appropriate conditions and be more accessible than ever before.

You can continue to support the work of IBRA in its new role by subscribing for 2006. The annual subscription for an individual member is £40 and for a corporate member is £165 well worth the price for the quality of the journal alone!

Richard Jones  
IBRA 18 North Road, Cardiff CF10 3DT, UK

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## **EURBEE3**

### **Belfast**

**8<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> September 2008**

**Arrive 7<sup>th</sup> September**

**The 3<sup>rd</sup> European Conference of Apidology, hosted at Queen's University Belfast**

This biennial conference comprises plenary lectures and symposia (talks and posters) on diverse aspects of the biology of bees, honeybee management and honeybee products. Each morning and each afternoon will commence with a plenary lecture, followed by two parallel symposia. The final day (11<sup>th</sup> September) is devoted to an excursion that will include the World Heritage Site of the Giant's Causeway (<http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/main/w-vh/w-visits/w-findaplace/w-giantscauseway/>).

Details of previous EurBee conferences can be found at (<http://www.eurbec.org/>).

#### **Plenary lectures at EurBee3**

**Tom Seeley** (Cornell, USA) Communication

**Vassya Bankova** (Sofia, Bulgaria) Propolis

**Martin Giurfa** (Toulouse, France) Behaviour

**Steve Martin** (Sheffield, UK) Bee diseases

**Claire Kremen** (Princeton, USA) Pollination

**Dave Goulson** (Sterling, UK) Conservation

## **Spoken and poster papers**

Symposia topics with symposia organizers are given on the provisional programme (see below). We have lecture slots within the symposia and seek offers of papers. Abstracts should be submitted when registering.

## **Poster papers**

We welcome offers of posters on any relevant topic and we have scheduled part of the afternoon of 9<sup>th</sup> September as a poster-viewing and discussion period within the conference. Abstracts should be submitted when registering.

## **Deadlines**

The deadline for abstract submission and normal registration fee is 31st May. Abstracts will not be accepted without the registration fee.

## **Venue**

The venue is the Medical and Biological Centre (MBC), of Queen's University Belfast, Lisburn Road, Belfast. This is adjacent to the City Hospital in South Belfast, near to the main university buildings. It is building 34 on the campus map (<http://www.qub.ac.uk/home/TheUniversity/Location/Maps/MainCampus/>).

The new main MBC Lecture theatre will house the plenary talks and one of the two parallel symposia. An additional large lecture theatre in the MBC will house the other parallel symposium. A number of smaller rooms within the MBC can be used for workshops and round table discussions. Poster sessions will be held in the same building.

## **Lunches and poster session**

Lunch will be provided each day (included in registration fee). The poster and discussion session on the afternoon of 9<sup>th</sup> September will be accompanied by cheese and drinks, kindly provided by the School of Biological Sciences at Queen's (<http://www.qub.ac.uk/schools/SchoolofBiologicalSciences/>).

## **Childcare**

If you are bringing children with you and wish to make use of childcare facilities, please email the conference organizers on [eurbee3@qub.ac.uk](mailto:eurbee3@qub.ac.uk) to discuss your needs.

## **Excursion on 11<sup>th</sup> September**

The all-day excursion on 11<sup>th</sup> September is to the Giant's Causeway (<http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/main/w-vh/w-visits/w-findaplace/w-giantscauseway/>), a World Heritage Site, via the Glens of Antrim, and will include a visit to reputedly the oldest whiskey distillery: Bushmills Distillery (<http://www.bushmills.com>). The excursion includes travel, lunch, tour guide and entry fees. Delegates and accompanying persons must book the excursion using the 'registration' web link below.

## **Dining out and drinking**

These are major pastimes in Ireland and South Belfast has numerous bars and restaurants, most of which are within 10 minutes walk from the venue. Please note that evening meals are not included in registration and are not organized by EurBee3. Nearby restaurants cover a very large range of ethnic types, Irish, French, Italian, Chinese (including many excellent 'real' Chinese), Thai, Indian, Malaysian, Japanese, fusion etc. Bars range from small and 'trendy' to large 'student' pubs. The Crown Bar is a must for visitors (opposite the Europa Hotel). It is an opulent 'shrine' to alcohol consumption, owned by the National Trust. We will engage in extensive, selfless research on these and a guide will be provided on arrival. You can also download a restaurant guide now at ([http://www.gotobelfast.com/offers2/viewdetail.cfm/soffer\\_key/10/pagename/DO WNLOAD\\_YOUR\\_FREE\\_COPY\\_OF\\_OUR\\_RANGE\\_OF\\_BELFAST\\_CITY\\_GUID ES](http://www.gotobelfast.com/offers2/viewdetail.cfm/soffer_key/10/pagename/DO WNLOAD_YOUR_FREE_COPY_OF_OUR_RANGE_OF_BELFAST_CITY_GUID ES)).

## **Formal reception and conference party**

We aim to have a formal reception on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September after the close of academic business in one of the nearby historic buildings of the university. Also there will be a conference party on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> included in the registration fee. We have hired for our private use a well-known Belfast music hall, just a 10 minute stroll from the conference venue. Wait for the views to change at the Belfast Empire (<http://www.thebelfastempire.com/gallery.html>). We will start with traditional Irish music and then switch to Irish rock, all provided by a local band. The venue has a great atmosphere and plenty of room for just sitting and watching the band or dancing the night away.

## **Travel**

Belfast is served by two airports and may be reached either by a single flight or two flights via a major hub from most of Europe. The City Airport (<http://www.belfastcityairport.com/home.asp?pid=4>) has flights from GB, including London Gatwick and Heathrow. The International Airport (<http://www.belfastairport.com/en/>) has flights from GB and the rest of Europe, including London Stansted, Amsterdam, Paris and Berlin. Both have frequent bus connections to the city centre and the conference venue is about 15 min walk from the bus stop (near to the Europa Hotel see map below). Return bus fares are approximately £2 for the City Airport and £9 for the International Airport. Full information on destinations and airlines using the two airports may be found at the sites above.

Dublin Airport (<http://www.iol.ie/~discover/dubfl.htm>) should also be considered as there are many direct flights from Europe and North America. There are two companies (<http://www.aircoach.ie/> and [http://www.buseireann.ie/site/airport\\_services/dublin.asp](http://www.buseireann.ie/site/airport_services/dublin.asp)) providing buses from Dublin Airport to Belfast centre throughout the day and night; journey time approximately 2.5 hours, for 12-18 euro return (price varies according to day of travel; Saturday and Sunday have the higher fare). The fare can be paid to the driver or airport representative in UK Pounds or euros.

Please note that neither the UK (Belfast) nor the Republic of Ireland (Dublin) are Schengen countries and so, if you require a UK visa to attend the EurBee3 conference in Belfast, we strongly recommend you to fly direct to Belfast or to fly via another UK airport (e.g. London Heathrow/Gatwick/Stanstead) rather than via Dublin, for which you may require a second visa for the Republic of Ireland.

## **Carbon off-setting**

The carbon footprint of traveling to Belfast will obviously be high for most participants so we encourage you to consider carbon off-setting when booking flights. We will try to minimise our carbon footprint by using, where possible, local goods and services in conference organisation.

## **Accommodation**

There are numerous hotels, guest houses, bed and breakfasts and a youth hostel within easy walking distance of the conference venue. Queen's Elms Village is university-owned accommodation (building 14 on the campus map)

that is close by and offers single, twin and double rooms with and without en-suite facilities. It is the cheapest accommodation on offer via the website below and it is envisaged that most participants will be accommodated there. The distance from Queen's Elms Village and the MBC (conference venue) is approximately 20 minutes by foot. A map of Belfast with accommodation locations may be found at the link below. Note that the City Hospital is South West of the City Hall and that the conference venue (MBC) is to the left (south) of the short road that links the Lisburn Road and the hospital. See the campus (<http://www.qub.ac.uk/home/TheUniversity/Location/Maps/MainCampus/>). and Belfast street maps ([http://www.gotobelfast.com/offers2/viewdetail.cfm/soffer\\_key/10/pagename/DOWNLOAD\\_YOUR\\_FREE\\_COPY\\_OF\\_OUR\\_RANGE\\_OF\\_BELFAST\\_CITY\\_GUIDES](http://www.gotobelfast.com/offers2/viewdetail.cfm/soffer_key/10/pagename/DOWNLOAD_YOUR_FREE_COPY_OF_OUR_RANGE_OF_BELFAST_CITY_GUIDES)).

The Belfast Visitor and Convention Bureau (<http://www.gotobelfast.com/>) is the official organizer of the accommodation for EurBee3 and offers special rates at selected hotels and Elms Village. Accommodation may be checked and booked directly at (<https://www.conferencebookings.co.uk/delegate/BLFEURBEE2008>), or via e mail addresses or phone numbers provided by them here [Belfast Visitor and Convention Bureau \(http://www.gotobelfast.com/\)](http://www.gotobelfast.com/).

Maps of Belfast (from the Belfast Visitor and Convention Bureau) can also be downloaded there.

## **Accompanying persons**

It is easy to get around Belfast and see the sights so we recommend 'do-it-yourself' (see <http://www.gotobelfast.com/>). If you are an accompanying person, book accommodation (see above) and inform the conference team at [eurbee3@qub.ac.uk](mailto:eurbee3@qub.ac.uk) of your name and the duration of your stay in Belfast. If you wish to join the one-day conference excursion on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September, please book this using the 'registration' web link below, or ask another delegate to book the excursion for you (cost £30).

## **Payment**

We can accept secure credit card/debit card payment. Payment is in pounds sterling only. Please use the payment page. (weblines: <https://admin.qol.qub.ac.uk/ecommerce/eurbee3/index.php>) We can also accept cheques in euro or Sterling but contact [eurbee3@qub.ac.uk](mailto:eurbee3@qub.ac.uk) first.

## **Abstracts**

Please use the format below. We suggest you use this 'abstract' as a template and paste it into a word document, complete the abstract and paste (no more than 250 words) into the abstract submission section on the registration pages. Note that to get to 'abstract submission' you have to register and then go to 'checkout'. You will then be asked to paste in your abstract to a designated box before proceeding to give credit/debit card details.

**Title of paper:**

**Authors:**

**Poster only or spoken presentation preferred: (Poster/Spoken)**

**Name of the most relevant symposium (details on the provisional programme (see below):**

**Address of first author only:**

**E mail:**

**Abstract:** (maximum 250 words)

## **Registration**

Prices are given here and on the payment page of registration (<https://admin.qol.qub.ac.uk/ecommerce/eurbee3/index.php>). Registration automatically includes membership of EurBee for 2 years. Those not wishing to join EurBee must inform the conference registration desk during the conference and will be asked to pay a small, nominal administrative charge at the conference venue. The preferred method is by credit or debit card. Should you wish to pay by cheque, please first contact: [eurbee3@qub.ac.uk](mailto:eurbee3@qub.ac.uk).

### **REGISTRATION FEES**

Full fee (before May 31st)  
Includes tea, coffee, lunch, and party  
£130.00  
approximately Euro 175

Student Fee\* (before May 31st)  
Includes tea, coffee, lunch, and party  
£100.00  
approximately Euro 130

Late fee (from June 1st)  
£180.00  
approximately Euro 240

Late student fee\* (from June 1st)  
£150.00  
approximately Euro 200

If you wish to attend the all-day excursion on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September, add £30.00 to the above prices.

\* This must be accompanied by a letter/email from your supervisor to confirm your status.

Click [here](https://admin.qol.qub.ac.uk/ecommerce/eurbee3/index.php) (<https://admin.qol.qub.ac.uk/ecommerce/eurbee3/index.php>) to register for the conference and submit your abstract.

## **Cancellation**

Cancellation of registration is possible up to the 1<sup>st</sup> September, though we levy a 10% administrative charge for cancellation. If you need to cancel, please contact [eurbee3@qub.ac.uk](mailto:eurbee3@qub.ac.uk) with your transaction details (transaction details are automatically send to you by email when you register and pay using the registration website (<https://admin.qol.qub.ac.uk/ecommerce/eurbee3/index.php>)).

## **EurBee3 organisation:**

Robert Paxton (local)  
Juliet Osborne (programme)  
Joachim de Miranda (local)  
Antonella Soro (local)  
Bob Elwood (advisory)  
Stephen Fowler (web)  
Gillian Riddle (social)  
Jennifer Teal (local)

## Sponsors



Provisional programme for EurBee3 2008 - please note that times of symposia may change due to demand

Sunday				
7th September 2008	16.00-20.00	<b>REGISTRATION in the MBC foyer of Queen's</b> (Building 34 of the campus map)		

Monday 8th September 2008	09.30-10.30	Plenary session I Tom Seeley - Communication		
	10.30-11.00	<i>Coffee Break</i>		
	11.00-12.30	Parallel symposia	BeeShop: an EU research programme - Organizer: Joachim de Miranda	Non-Apis bees - Organizer: Tom Murray
	12.30-1.3.30	<i>Lunch</i>		
	1.3.30-1.4.30	Plenary session II Vassya Bankova - Propolis		
	1.4.30-1.5.00	<i>Coffee Break</i>		
	1.5.00-1.6.30	Parallel symposia	Bee products - Organizer: Anna Gloria Sabatini	Bee genetics - Organizer: Bernhard Kraus
	<i>Welcome reception in Whitla Hall</i>			
	1.7.00-1.9.00			

Tuesday 9th September 2008	09.30-10.30	Plenary session III Martin Gullra - Behaviour		
	10.30-11.00	<i>Coffee Break</i>		
	11.00-12.30	Parallel symposia	Behaviour & physiology - Organizer: Juliet Osborne	Management - Organizer: Norman Carreck, Richard Jones
	12.30-1.3.30	<i>Lunch</i>		
	1.3.30-1.4.30	Plenary session IV Steve Martin - Bee diseases		
	1.4.30-1.5.00	<i>Coffee Break</i>		
	1.5.00-1.6.30	Parallel symposia	Prevention of bee losses - Organizer: Peter Neumann	ALARV: an EU research programme - Organizers: I Stefan-Dewenter, Koos Biesmeijer
	1.6.30-1.8.30	<i>Poster session with local cheese and drinks</i>		

Wednesday 10th September 2008	09.30-10.30	Plenary session I Claire Kremen - Pollination		
	10.30-11.00	<i>Coffee Break</i>		
	11.00-12.30	Parallel symposia	Crop pollination - Organizer: Arnon Dag	Pathogens & diseases - Organizer: Eva Forsgren
	12.30-1.3.30	<i>Lunch</i>		
	1.3.30-1.4.30	Plenary session II Dave Goulson - Conservation		
	1.4.30-1.6.00	Parallel symposia	Diversity & conservation - Organizer: Ben Darvill, Claire Carvell	Bee viruses - Organizer: Elke Genschel
	1.6.00-1.6.30	<i>Coffee Break</i>		
	1.6.30-1.8.00	Parallel symposia	Wild plant pollination - Organizer: Jane Stout	Environmental hazards to bees - Organizer: Peter Rosenzweig
	21.00-late	<i>Celeb (party) in The Empire</i>		

Thursday 11th September 2008	10.00-18.00	<b>EXCURSION</b>		
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