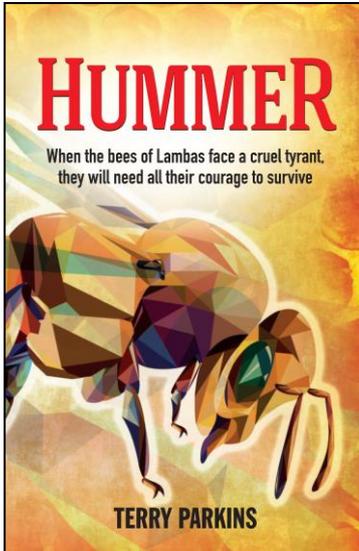


## MEREO BOOKS: PRESS RELEASE

A timely fantasy story of life, love and conflict in a bee colony:  
this epic novel transports the reader into a convincingly-portrayed world of nature  
**An enthralling novel for older children, teenagers & adults – which is raising money to protect bees**

*“Why is he still here amongst these illicit flowers? His task was only to survey and report his findings. Has he partaken of their forbidden pollen?”*



## HUMMER

When the bees of Lambas face a cruel tyrant,  
they will need all their courage to survive

by Terry Parkins

### 50% OF THE BOOK PROFITS ARE BEING DONATED TO:

- The British Beekeeper's Association and
- The International Bee Research Association



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Meet the bees of Lambas: share in their friendships and power struggles; marvel at their loyalty and admire their courage as they prepare to give everything – even their own lives – to save the hive ...

*As Hummer grew older he could no longer fly as far or as hard as he did in his prime. Hummer did not resent Orfus taking his position, because he owed him his life. Yet a day never passed without Hummer reflecting sadly on the misfortune fate had bestowed upon him ...*

The ageing bee Hummer has had to relinquish his post as commander of the Hive Defence Garrison through injury, but his heart and his courage are as strong as ever. Now the peace and security of the bees of Lambas is threatened by the terrifying and ambitious drone Redmore, their tyrannical new Honey Controller, and his impossible demands for ever more food supplies. It will take all Hummer's courage and wisdom to lead their defence with his brave young allies Brendan, Laser and Casper, as well as an unlikely alliance with an aggressive tribe of giant ants.

This epic tale is exciting and informative – war and peace in the world of bees: their rules, their hierarchy, their in-fighting and their struggle to protect their colony.

*“Treason? I have just saved Queen Helena's life! If I am guilty of treason, why did I not let her die? I am truly heartened to see Queen Helena is showing signs of improvement but the Hive needs a younger, stronger and healthier Queen. The Hive has made its decision!”*

With current concerns about declining populations of bees, this timely novel (written for young people and adults) could do for bees what 'Watership Down' did for rabbits.



**About the author: Terry Parkins** was originally from Cornwall. He has been married to his wife, Joyce, for more than 40 years and they live in Wiltshire. Terry is an insurance professional and has worked throughout the West Country. A passionate lifetime Chelsea FC supporter, Terry participates in a wide range of sports, in particular table tennis – and he still travels the world competing in veterans events with the England Veterans Table Tennis Association.

**Local UK interest:** Author, **Terry Parkins**, was born in **Cornwall** and considers himself to be very much a Cornishman. He has worked throughout the **West Country** and lives in **Calne, Wiltshire**

**Media opportunities:** Extracts/serialisation. The author is available for interviews.



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