

Harlow Bees-letter - June 2016

Upcoming Meetings

June 2 - Beekeeping in the Caribbean; with Clive de Bruyn

July 7 - Honey Hygiene and regulations; with Andy Pedley



Secretary Notices

Last month - We were taught / reminded about pests and diseases by David Rudland who teaches about this for a living, while he is not bee farming. It was a thoroughly engaging talk and I think we all learnt something.

Jars

The deadline date for jars has come forward.

All orders must be received by Pauline by 2nd June Divisional Meeting at the latest

Don't miss out! pauline@harlowbees.co.uk or ring 01279 441941

New Event

This year we are joining in a family based event, around teaching people where their food comes from. Foxholes farm is hosting "Open Farm Sunday". <https://farmsunday.org/>. We realise this is short notice but would like support from members at this event.

Talk bees and neonics with our MP

The MP for Harlow, Robert Halfon, would like to talk to members of our group about Neonicotinoids - if you are interested please contact Nick wwwcight@gmail.com.

Advertising

There are wonderful adverts for foundation. The words to describe the wax are pure, organic, premium and so on. It means the buyer can pay over the top for it Much of it is a strange colour. Because members let me have their wax to recycle it is refined and exchanged for the best foundation at a reasonable price. It is the best quality and a good colour. Adverts are not limited to questionable wax. The people selling queens are having a field day. More than half the queens purchased do not fulfil their mission in life. It's better to rear your own queens.

Producing queens.

A nuc hive is a very useful thing, two are even better. I like to put five frames in a nuc box and put in a queen cell that is ready to open. After a couple of weeks there is a young mated queen, laying for all she's worth. The nuc can be used to replace a poor queen or an old one or one making bad-tempered workers; you may want increase or go through winter with it.

Swarms

A neighbour living on a housing estate kept vicious bees in his tiny garden. Every year they swarmed into someone's patch. The beekeeper said it was very good. It was natural for bees to swarm. Stuff and nonsense. Let's do all we can to prevent a swarm:- Use young queens from low swarming parentage and give them room. Collecting swarms is great fun. Be sensible. Do not climb trees and leave the tricky ones to the experts. A hive with old, disease-free combs makes a bait hive. It's one way to get bees for nothing.

Top bar hives

These are said to be the latest thing. They were all the vogue in Biblical times. If you have money, time and interest and don't want honey Or if you are shipwrecked on a desert island I won't stop you. Good hives are in use. Why go in for this white elephant?

by Roy Cropley

HarlowBees Events

Upcoming in the next few months we have 5th June **Open Farm Sunday** Foxholes Farm, **Hallingbury Flower Show** on Sunday 24th July and **Pandon Week Bee Weekend** 30th & 31st July

For sale

Buckets

- Honey buckets £2
David Tyler (01279 730228)

Wax for sale

- recycle wax with Roy
Roy Cropley (01992 626668)

Division committee

President, Spray Liaison & Swarm Liaison Danny Nicoll

Chairman & Librarian David Tyler

Vice Chair David Tidmas

Secretary & Web Editor Nick Holmes

Treasurer Pauline Tidmas
Divisional Trustee

Martin Cavalier

Training Liaison Mike Barke

Council Liaison Brian Bull
Newsletter Nick Holmes & Roy Cropley

Mailing Officer Lisa McCorkindale