

Harlow Bees-letter - January 2017

Upcoming Meetings

January 5 - Harlow AGM

February 2 - Spring Preparation & What I did for the BBKA Basic with David McCorkindale



Secretary Notices

Last month we had the **CHRISTMAS PARTY !!!** We had lots of fun and games

AGM

New meeting in the AGM - please see attached AGM Agenda.

There are lots of posts across the group where people can contribute and while the people in post are prepared to stand its always good to get new help & ideas in running the division. If you are willing to stand a role you will need someone to propose you for the post.

Annual Subscription

It is that time of year to renew subscriptions. Please find the subscription form here

<http://harlowbees.co.uk/division/membership/>

Please note if you wish to be a swarm collector please see the agreements on

<http://harlowbees.co.uk/division/members-only/>

Divisional Programme

The below is the *draft* programme for 2017 (subject to bookings)

Jan 5 - AGM

Feb 2 - Spring Preparation

& What I did for the BBKA Basic with David McCorkindale

Mar 2 - Planting for pollinators

Apr 6 - Making for increase & swarm collection

May 4 - Propolis and pollen

May roadtrip - TBA

Jun 1 - Bee space

June apiary event - TBC

Jul 6 - TBA

Aug 3 - Harlow Honey Show

Sept 7 - Wax cleaning

& Winter Preparation

Oct 5 - Candles and wax moulding

& 2017 Programme discussions

Nov 2 - Honey Beer... & 2017 Programme finalisation

Dec 7 - Xmas party & Bee Quiz

Jan 4 2018 - AGM

Introduction to Beekeeping course

This years course has been planned. Those who wish to take the course again should book soon. If you would like to buy someone else a course for Christmas there is a voucher option. Otherwise if you can help us advertise the course wherever you can that would be appreciated.

Please email pauline.bees@hotmail.co.uk or telephone 01279 441941 if you would like to book or help advertise.

The next meeting of the Harlow Division is on Thursday 5th January at 8p.m. in Kings Church. The AGM will take place. Subscriptions are due. The subs for a single member is £33.50. Of this £19 goes to BBKA, Essex County takes £5, BDI insure 3 hives for £2. The remaining £7.50 goes to running Harlow Division.

Insurance

The BBKA protects its members against third party claims. When a member of the public brings a claim against a beekeeper the BBKA will fight your case. Rather than waste a fortune in court (I feel the same way as you do about lawyers' fees) they usually settle out of court. Beekeepers do not receive compensation for loss. Some house insurances pay for theft, vandalism and fire damage

Brood Diseases

There are two diseases involved, American Foul Brood and European Foul Brood, affectionately known as AFB and EFB. The bee disease officer must be notified immediately if either is found. The combs and bees will be destroyed if AFB: The bees may be given clean combs if EFB. It is most important to get a claim form from the officer and together with proof of payment from Pauline sent to Bernard Diaper at his private address as soon as possible. It is essential to insure all your hives with BDI. No other disease is insured against.

Set Honey

It is a bit complicated with Oil-Seed Rape and Ivy which produce honey so rich in glucose that they set quickly. Here are a few tips to deal with set honey.

1. The honey sets quickly with fine crystals of glucose Use it or market as naturally crystallised honey.
2. It is liquid but you want soft set honey. Mix it thoroughly with 25% soft honey. Keep it at about 14 degrees. Bottle after 2 days.
3. A bucket of set honey needs to be bottled. Put in a warming cabinet at 35 degrees for 2-3 days. Cool to 14 degrees. Add soft set honey.
4. Jars of set honey need to be liquefied. Stand in a pan of water and warm slowly to about 60 degrees. Maintain at 60 for one hour.
5. Honey in a jar needs to be made runny. Put into a microwave with a metal lid on full power. After half to one minute stir. Repeat until fully liquid.

Feeding

This year is exceptional as the bees are taking food. There are three things they like:- sugar syrup, candy and ready made syrup. In February they will get the soft candy/pollen feed.

By Roy Cropley

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
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