

# Harlow Bees-letter - August 2017

## Upcoming Meetings

August 3 - Harlow Honey show

September 7 - To Be Confirmed



## Secretary Notices

Last month we had Richard Ridler, Chairman of Bees Abroad & EBKA module exam teacher talk to us about Propolis. Looking at a number of the alleged health benefits; I've been collecting propolis to make tincture since, have you?

## Picture of the month

This month's picture comes from Carol Sissons and shows a Bee sat on scalpel blade drinking honey. Future submissions by 15th of each month to [wwwcight@gmail.com](mailto:wwwcight@gmail.com) .



## Events

We had a brilliant day at Gaston House for the Hallingbury Flower show. Educating the public, selling honey and enjoying the sunshine. The dash of rain at the end of the afternoon hardly dampened our spirits and we were very busy throughout. We even had a fancy dress Queen Bee handing out brochures bringing in the visitors.

## Harlow Honey Show

It's that time again folks! Come and try your hand at exhibiting in own Honey Show at the 3rd August Meeting You can enter in each of the 4 classes and remember **no labels please**. For this to be a worthwhile event we need you to enter

**Good Luck to everyone**

## 130th Essex Show

The Show Schedule and Entry Form for our 130th Essex Show was sent with the July edition of the Essex Beekeeper Magazine.

You can download more forms from the Essex website [www.ebka.org](http://www.ebka.org)

The change of venue means that this will be a 1 day event only - on Saturday 2nd September 2017 at the Orsett Showground Near Grays, Thuruck, Essex RM16 3JU.

**COME ON HARLOW MEMBERS LET'S SEE IF WE CAN WIN AGAIN THIS YEAR!!!**

To do that we need lots of you to enter classes - it's not all about having loads of honey - have a read through the classes and see what you could enter.

If you don't use pound jars speak to Pauline we have some available from the division.

If you wish to enter any of the classes they have to be at Orsett by mid day Friday 1st September.  
If you cannot take your entries yourself Mike Barke will take them to Orsett for you.  
Please ring Mike & Sabina on 01279 428437 to arrange your drop off to them.  
They must be at their home by 7pm Thursday 31st August. 19 Priory Avenue, Old Harlow CM17 0HH

### **Forage**

Bees forage for four things:- nectar and water which they bring back in their honey sacs and pollen and propolis which they carry on their back legs. Richard Riddler talked about propolis at our last meeting. Propolis is usually dark brown and is the reason why we need hive tools. It sticks to your fingers, gloves, hive tools, shoes and carpets. Plants produce it and bees collect it just to annoy you. It is a genetic thing, some bees collect it and some don't. Bees put it in every little crack and crevice. The hive parts are stuck together and need the leverage of the hive tool to separate them. Be careful not to put too much force on the very corner of the brood chamber. Before the queen lays in a cell the workers polish it with a thin layer of propolis. It is said to be antiseptic and some people use it to chase away bacteria. Gauze in the hive will have all the holes filled. Put in the deep freeze the propolis falls out. Some firms buy this and make tincture of propolis for sale as an alternative medicine. You can soak propolis in vodka and use two drops in water as a drink. Or put it on a cut to keep it clean (I don't do this myself). In the mouth it sticks teeth together. When two lovers get it on their lips they are stuck together for ever.

### **Extraction**

If you would like some advice about extracting or hands on help give me a ring on 01992 626668 or email roy.cropley1@virginmedia.com I have an extracting hut which you are free to use at 279 Goff's Lane, Cheshunt, EN7 5QL

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** Danny Nicoll

**Chairman & Librarian** David Tyler

**Vice Chair** David McCorkindale

**Secretary & Web Editor** Nick Holmes

**Treasurer** Pauline Tidmas

**Divisional Trustee** Martin Cavalier

**Swarm Liaison & Spray Liaison** David Swindale

**Training Liaison** David McCorkindale

**Council Liaison** Brian Bull

**Newsletter** Nick Holmes

**Mailing Officer** Lisa McCorkindale