

Harlow Bees-letter - September 2017

Upcoming Meetings

November 2 - General Discussions...

December 7 - Xmas party



Secretary Notices

At the end of last month we had our The National Honey Show, Mike Barke stood out again as scoring well across the board:

Class 1	24 jars	2nd	
Class 4	12 jars	2nd	
Class 90	Practical invention	2nd	
Class 261	Comb for extraction	1st	(Essex)
Class 262	2 jars light honey	1st	(Essex)
Class 263	2 jars medium honey	2nd	(Essex)
Class 269	1 jar honey gift	1st	(Essex)
Class 273	Dry mead	1st	(Essex)
Class 274	Sweet mead	3rd	(Essex)

This year Mike has one of our associates (and Epping member) gaining ground though, Ted Gradosielski had :

Class 5	Two Jars Liquid Honey	VHC	
Class 263	Two Jars Medium Honey	1st	(Essex)
Class 264	Two Jars Dark Honey	1st	(Essex)
Class 265	Three different Honeys	3rd	(Essex)

Please join me in Congratulating them both on the success of their hard work.



Picture of the month

In a classic example of what not to do, that turned out very ornate, and shows bees dont always do things in straight lines. Future submissions by 15th of each month to wwwcight@gmail.com .

Beekeeping Course

Our Annual course starts again 27th February 2018 for 5 weeks 8-10pm and 2 apiary sessions, only £50 or £90 for couples - For Further Information ring David on 07988 595054 or email davidmccorkindale@hotmail.com

The Best Advert ever made for TV

I'd like to build the world a home and furnish it with love, Grow apple trees and honey bees and snow-white turtle doves, I'd like to teach the world to sing in perfect harmony I'd like to buy the world a coke and keep it company. A beautiful advert for Coca cola when it contained cocaine. Today it has caffeine. Tastes about the same. The idea that everybody can have a hive of bees is not strictly true. They need a bit of TLC. More research is done on bees than any other source of food. Their value as pollinators is inestimable.

Autumn Leaves

Bees should now be prepared for winter with varroa treatment and feeding finished. Make sure the grass is cut about them and there is air underneath the hives. Hive stands should be able to survive the winter. A mouse can do a lot of damage and the green woodpecker makes expensive holes in woodwork. Rain must not enter and some insulation over the brood keeps it warm. The recent warm weather including night time has kept the queens laying. Some winter stores have been used up so make sure there is enough to last. There is a lot of ivy honey this year. It has an unpleasant smell and goes hard quickly. Some people love it. There's no accounting for taste. If bees need feeding in the winter candy or fondant is better than syrup.

Oxalic acid vapour for varroa

This is the most efficient way of dealing with mites. It needs a great deal of skill to avoid hurting yourself and if you must do it, don't! Let an expert bring the equipment and do it. There are safer but less effective treatments. Some of them are notorious for killing the queen. I am not going to treat in the hopes that my bees are resistant to varroa. Wax A lot of wax is destroyed because it is not worth all the time and trouble to deal with it. Beekeeping is a hobby. We are not supposed to make money. If you can't or won't produce your wax ready to be recycled I will offer to help. I like blocks of yellow wax but I will take less perfect stuff. My foundation is the best in Europe and costs less than the catalogue price.

Roy Cropley

For sale

Buckets

- Honey buckets £2

David Tyler (01279 730228)

Wax for sale

- recycle wax with Roy

Roy Cropley (01992 626668)

Sugar

35p kilo - bring a bag

Danny (01279 420679)

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

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