

Harlow Bees-letter

July 2018

Upcoming HBKD Meetings for your diary:

5th July:

Our Vice Chair Mike Barke will kindly be educating us on "*Exhibiting Honey at Local, County and National shows*"

2nd August: TBC



Secretary Notices:

At last months' meeting on 7th June 2018, Chad Colby-Blake kindly provided the HBKD audience with a really informative presentation on 'The Importance of Drones'.

The poor Drone has been used as Sacrificial Brood; a 'Mating-Machine', useful only to the Virgin Queen and treated as a 'Hanger-On' in the hive. Savage!

Chad has set-us right and championed the Drone! The Drone confirms that the colony is well fed; keeps the colony relaxed and provides genetic diversity to surrounding colonies. So, give those Drones a 'high-five'!

Treasurer/Membership Notice:

BeeCraft Subscriptions:

- BeeCraft has not increased its' prices over the last few years but they will be for 2019/ 2020:
- New prices will be included on your divisional membership forms for next year and will be sent out at the end of the year.
- The increase will begin from the April 2019 to March 2020 issues
- The printed issue with complimentary Digital Subscription will be £29.75
- Digital Subscription only will be £19.75

Divisional Events:

Please help and support our HBKA Divisional Events!

- **Sunday 8th July** – 11am – 5pm Celebration Event @ the Newly Created Wildflower Meadow in the Harlow Town Park, Stort Valley Meadows.
- **Sunday 15th July** – Hallingbury Flower Show - Harps Farm
- ****Thursday August 2nd - Division Honey Show****
- **August** – Weekend Education Event (date to follow) @ Parndon Wood Nature Reserve, Harlow

****Divisional Honey Show Thursday August 2nd****

This is a chance to show off your skills!! But...

You have to be 'in it to win it'!

Classes have changed to include many more 'non honey' Essex Classes

Please take a look at the entry form and instructions enclosed with this newsletter.

Essex Association Dates:

Essex Honey Show: Saturday 1st September, Orsett Show, Orsett Showground.

EBKA Conference: Saturday 3rd November, Chelmsford City Racecourse.

Beekeeping notes for July:

July Forage:

- Watch out for the 'nectar gap' from June to the end of August, depending on weather conditions.
- Bees will be focusing on collecting pollen and nectar from summer flowering plants that include; Anise Hyssop, Borage, Chives, Lavender, Hebe, Motherwort, Lime Tree and Valerian to name a few!

Beware Swarms!

- Have equipment for artificial swarming ready
- Have equipment and nucs ready for receiving swarms!

July tasks:

- Complete regular, weekly inspections specifically looking for queen cells and disease
- Monitor and treat for Varroa (if Supers are on, non-chemical treatments)
- Be mindful of food shortages after removing honey stores and approaching the 'nectar gap'
- Deter wasps and robbers that will be looking for sugary-stores and food!

Divisional Library:

We have gradually been adding books to our reading library. David Tyler is responsible for the library and he brings them to every meeting. All EBKA members can borrow the books – have a look and see what takes your fancy...!

Honey Jars:

Bulk Honey Jar Orders:

2018 orders are now complete. Orders can only be made annually, so next chance to order is May 2019.

Items Always For Sale

Honey Buckets £2.00
David Tyler 01279 730228
Wax
Roy Cropley 01992 626668

Division Committee

President: Danny Nicoll
Chair/Librarian: David Tyler
Vice Chair: Mike Barke
Secretary/Web/Trustee: Nick Holmes
Treasurer: Pauline Tidmas
Mailing Officer: Lisa McCorkindale

Swarm Liaison: David Swindale
Spray Liaison: Ben Hart
Training: David McCorkindale
Council Liaison: Ralph Cullen
Newsletter: Pamela Chambers