



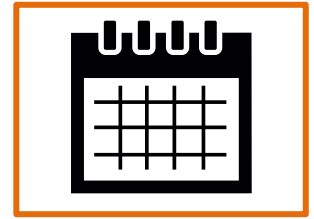
# Harlow Bees-letter

## August 2018



### Upcoming HBKD Meetings for your diary:

**2<sup>nd</sup> August:** TBC – it's a surprise!



### Secretary Notices:

Many thanks to **Mike Barke** who explained at the July meeting, how he prepares his honey and jars for show. Whether preparing for our **HBKA show on 2nd August** or the **Essex Show 2nd September** or generally for sale, jars should be sparkling clean and the honey properly filtered. There is an art to preparing the honey - time and patience is needed to do it properly.

Mike explained what judges were looking for and how easy it was for judges to disregard jars before even considering opening the jar - **'Presentation is Key'!**

If you are thinking about entering your honey into the forthcoming Essex Show, contact Mike to make the necessary arrangements: [mjbarke@googlemail.com](mailto:mjbarke@googlemail.com) – even if you cannot attend the show, Mike can make the suitable arrangements.

### Treasurer/Membership Notice:

Thank you to all those members who took part in our three educational events: it is not an easy task with so few members coming forward to help but with the efforts of those that did help the events went extremely well!

The Three Events:

- Newly Created Wildflower Meadow, Harlow Town Park, Stort Valley Meadows
- Hatfield Heat Festival
- Hallingbury Flower Show - Harps Farm

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> August** is the date of our last event and will be at: **Parndon Wood Nature Reserve**, Harlow. Although this is normally a weekend event it has been reduced to a single day, *due to lack of volunteers*. If you can spare any time to help, please contact Pauline directly.

There is a lot to cover on our stand:

- Talk about bees with a demonstration hive
- Hold bee demonstrations
- Discuss The apiary, Beekeeping, Joining the BBKA & Harlow
- Discussing the Tools, equipment, virtual hive
- Candle rolling with the kids
- Selling honey



### Divisional Events:

#### Divisional Honey Show:

Don't forget **2nd August is our own honey show**. Please arrive between 7.15 and 7.45 with your entries so we can 'book them in' in plenty of time. Don't put labels or get finger prints on your jars of honey. All cooking and wax go on plain white plates. Please support the show by entering as many classes as you can.



We have over 90 members and over the last couple of years the greatest number to participate in the show has been 15 members... I am sure we can do much better.

**This is a good test run for the Essex Show in September!**

**\*\*Divisional Honey Show Thursday August 2<sup>nd</sup>\*\***

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

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

### Essex Association Dates:

**Essex Honey Show:** Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> September, Orsett Show, Orsett Showground.

**EBKA Conference:** Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> November, Chelmsford City Racecourse.

### Beekeeping notes for August:

**18<sup>th</sup> August: World Honey Bee Day** – US initiative to raise awareness of Honey Bees and Hive products.

#### August Forage:

- Bees will be focusing on collecting pollen and nectar from summer flowering plants that include; Anise Hyssop, Bindweed, Cosmos, Hollyhock, Himalayan Balsam, Hebe, Ragwort, Rosebay Willow Herb, Sneezewort, Thistle to name a few! Identify the pollen source in your hives!

#### August tasks:

- If you haven't already, remove supers and extract the honey
- Monitor and treat the colony for Varroa (if Supers are on, non-chemical treatments)
- Ensure there is a strong, laying Queen and if not, now is the time to re-Queen
- Unite weaker or smaller colonies of bees
- Also, this is the month for Wasps and Hornets. If they are a problem, consider reducing the entrance space to the hives to help the bees protect their colony.

### Divisional Library:

David Tyler is responsible for the ever-growing library and he brings the books 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