

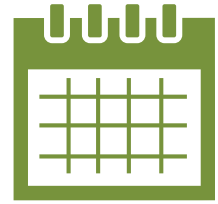


# Harlow Bees-letter December 2018



## Upcoming HBKD Meetings for your diary:

<b>Christmas Party</b>	6th December 2018 at 8:00 pm – 10:00 pm
<b>AGM meeting</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> January 2019 at 8:00 pm – 10.00 pm
<b>February meeting (details TBC)</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> February 2019 at 8.00 pm – 10.00 pm



## Secretary Notices:



At the November HBKA meeting, members were treated to a talk and demonstration by BeeBee Wraps <https://beebeewraps.com> about how to responsibly cover and protect food using natural materials, instead of relying on 'Cling-film' and other plastic based materials that, as we now know, are not good for Us or the environment. This product is becoming very popular and producers will be very pleased to procure any lovely, clean beeswax that you may have...!

## Treasurer/Membership Notices:

### Subscriptions:

**GDPR / BBKA / EBKA / BDI - and all that JAZZ:**

Nick and Pauline attended a meeting that introduced an updated version of a database that Pauline already uses. This assists in protecting members details, both within a secure system (in a cloud), the Club's own use and the transfer of data between BDI and BBKA.

It will update members details and payments and create invoices for payments to BDI, BBKA & EBKA , therefore assisting local treasurers in their jobs. It will also automatically update the BBKA Swarm List - which has been a real pain over the last few years!

Members will be able to log in and update their own details and payments later next year. It is also hoped that Bee Connect and Bee Craft will also come on board by then.

Members will have to pay subs promptly; transferring data and setting this up correctly will not allow any spare time to chase members. You will receive the 2019 subscription form with or linked to this newsletter.

**Payment is due 1st January 2019 but please note that Pauline can receive forms with cash or cheques from December onward (which will be banked after 7th January).**

**You can only pay by BACS from January onward (details are on the subs form).**

***Those who do not pay the subscription by the end of January WILL NOT BE INSURED.***

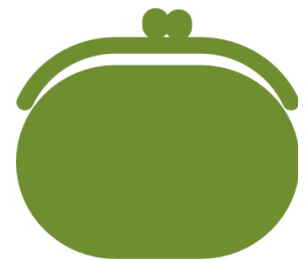
### January 10th 2019 - AGM:

Don't forget to come along to the AGM.

We still need members to put their names forward to help share the jobs needed to run the Division. We will assist anyone who takes on a role. We're still looking for Chairman & Secretary... interested?

You will receive the Agenda and role details with your January Newsletter at the end of December in readiness for the AGM.

Divisional Accounts will be available at the AGM.



## Beekeeping notes for December:



### Forage:

Bees will be tucked up inside their hives, conserving energy and food. You may see the odd bee fly a circuit on warmer, sunny days to complete a 'cleansing flight' and to forage on Winter Box, Alder, Christmas Rose, Viburnum Tinus and Ivy, but there will be very little activity from the hive from now on.

Therefore, the bees will rely on the stores they have generated over the past couple of months, so remember to 'heft' the hive from time to time to ensure they have plenty of food.

### Apiary Jobs for December: tidy, clean and store!

- Check beehives are intact; clear hive entrances of hive debris, leaves and snow
- Treat bees with Oxalic acid, if you have a treatment plan in place
- Start thinking about what equipment needs to be ordered for the new year
- Pre-order Nucs of bees for the Spring
- Melt and clean old wax
- Decorate jars of honey and melt and make festive gifts for friends and relatives!
- Write to Santa to let him know what you would like for Christmas!

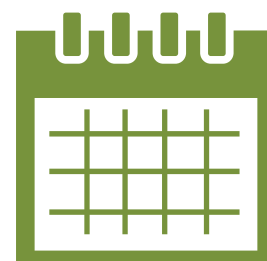


### Garden Jobs for December

- Plan your outside space for the year ahead and include Bee-friendly plants to help support the bees and other wildlife
- Clean up and sharpen garden tools ready for the Spring
- Install 'bee-houses' and bird boxes for the Spring, to encourage more wildlife into your garden.

## Other dates for your diary:

- Beetradex:** 9<sup>th</sup> March 2019 – Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire
- Cambridge Seminar:** Beekeeping in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century - 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2019 [ww.cbka.org.uk](http://ww.cbka.org.uk)
- The Spring Convention:** 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> April 2019, Harper Adams University, Shropshire



## Did you know?

### Folklore and Superstition:



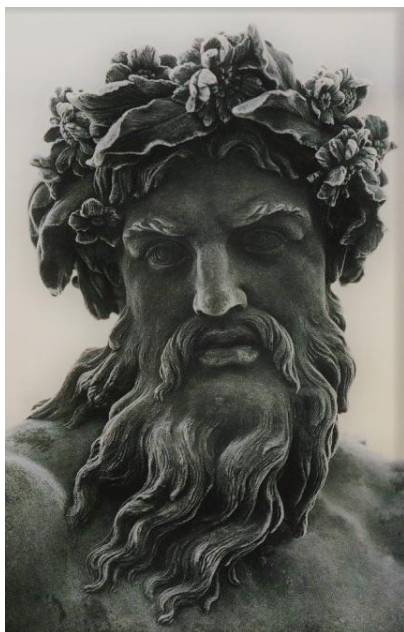
In the past, it was believed that Bees could tell if a girl was pure. A girl whose family had a hive and who was about to be married was to inform the bees if she wanted a long and happy marriage. She had to visit the hive and whisper, 'Little Brownies, little Brownies, your mistress is to be wed.' If she wanted to make absolutely sure of their blessing, she had to leave a piece of wedding cake outside the hive after the wedding for the bees to enjoy!

### Last month's Curious Corner answer...

'Deborah' in Hebrew means 'Queen Bee' or 'Bee'. In the Book of Judges, it is stated that Deborah was a prophet, a judge of Israel and the wife of Lapidoth. She is also considered a saint in the Catholic Church.

The painting to the right is titled 'Jael, Deborah and Barak' by Salomon de Bray, circa 1630.





### Curious Corner:

Did you know that the King of the Roman Gods, Jupiter, is said to have given the honeybee her stinger so that she could protect her honey. Jupiter's wife, Juno, said that in return for this special gift there must be some sort of payment, so Jupiter bestowed the stinger to the bee on condition that once used, the honeybee would die...

### Famous Beekeepers:

Peter Fonda – (b. 1940 – present) Film star; interest developed when filming 'Ulee's Gold' in 1997. You can order the DVD film from Amazon, I bee-lieve...

**What do you call Bears without ears? - B's...!**



### 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 browse and see what takes your fancy! But remember not to hang on to the books for too long, as other people may be waiting to read them.

### Honey Jars:

#### Bulk Honey Jar Orders:

Orders can only be made annually, so next chance to order is May 2019. Now is a good time to take stock and see how many jars you already have.



### 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

