



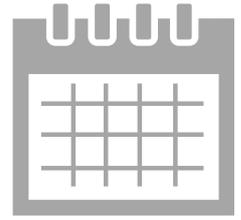
Harlow Bees-letter

February 2019



Upcoming HBKD Meetings for your diary:

February meeting:	7 th February 2019 at 8.00 pm – 10.00 pm – <i>a talk by Carol Sissons on the 'Plastic Crisis'</i>
March meeting (details TBC)	7 th March 2019 at 8.00 pm – 10.00 pm
April meeting (details TBC)	4 th April 2019 at 8.00 pm – 10.00 pm



Secretary Notices:



At the AGM meeting last month, both Pauline Tidmas and Nick Holmes stepped down from their respective roles, as Treasurer and Secretary for the HBKA. Pauline will continue to work with and support the new Treasurer and manage the Membership. Nick will be managing the website and working alongside the new Secretary, Carol Sissons.

Please may we take this opportunity to thank them both for their hard work and dedication to the HBKA and to congratulate Carol and Sue on their new roles.

A message from Carol: 'My first priority is to set up a diary for the coming Year, so everyone has plenty of notice of what is to come. I am working on finding speakers and if anyone has any ideas on speakers or what they would like to hear about, please let me know as soon as possible'.

Treasurer/Membership Notices:

Treasurer/Membership:

Many thanks to Sue Frazer for stepping up and taking on the Treasurer Post. Pauline and Sue will be working together during the year ahead, to ensure a smooth change over.

Subscriptions:

Please note over 50% of our members still have not paid their subscription, these must be paid ASAP. If you are deciding not to renew please let us know so we can update our records accordingly.

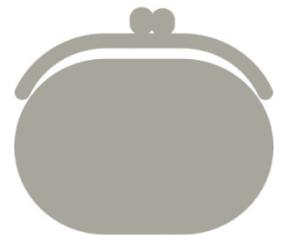
Any questions please contact paulinetidmasbees@gmail.com Mobile 07749 274895

Divisional Accounts for 2018

These have been attached - At the AGM in January these were agreed by the membership present.

Introduction to Beekeeping Course:

It was hoped we would run the course this year, but it has officially been cancelled. This is unfortunate, but it will give us an opportunity to reconsider whether the course requires any changes and the best setup for 2020.



Beekeeping notes for February:



The bees will be in a cluster within the hive, conserving their energy and warmth. Ensure the bees have sufficient stores by hefting the hive. If you are concerned that the hive is light, give the bees fondant and plant out flowering bulbs near the hives, if you didn't plant bulbs in the autumn. You may see the bees nosing around Snowdrops and early flowering plants on warmer days, but generally this is a quiet time of year so take advantage and put your feet up!

Apiary Jobs for February:

- Check beehives are intact; clear hive entrances of hive debris, leaves and snow
- Heft the hives to make sure there is still plenty of stores for the bees
- Check stored frames and boxes for Wax Moth and treat accordingly

Garden Jobs for February:

- Install 'bee-houses' and bird boxes: encourage more wildlife into your garden
- Feed the birds and remove ice from any water feeders or bird baths

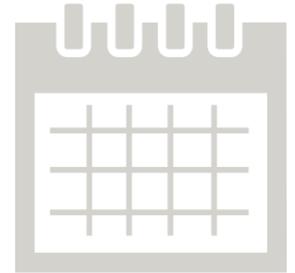


Other dates for your diary:

Beetradex: 9th March 2019 – Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire

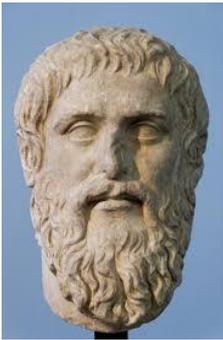
Cambridge Seminar: Beekeeping in the 21st Century - 23rd March 2019
www.cbka.org.uk

The Spring Convention: 12th – 14th April 2019, Harper Adams University, Shropshire



Did you know?

Folklore and Superstition:



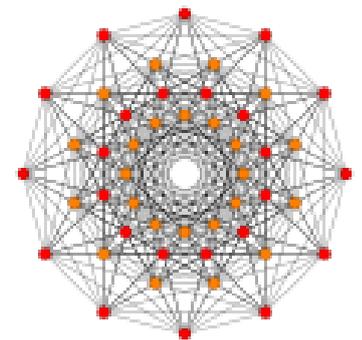
The Ancient Greeks believed that if bees settled on the lips of an infant, the child would grow up and be known for their 'honeyed words'; consider Plato the Philosopher, also known as the 'Bee of Athens', or Sophocles the Greek Dramatist, Pindar the Greek Poet, St Ambrose, St Chryston and St Dominic... all were said to be blessed by the bees!

Famous Beekeepers:

The former United States First Lady, Michelle Obama has beehives – although I think someone looks after them for her! Following on from a conversation that Michelle Obama had with Akie Abe, the wife of the current Prime Minister of Japan, Akie Abe also has hives of bees and promotes beekeeping in Japan.

Curious Corner:

Did you know that Scientists believe that in the world of quantum physics, bees can see quark particles spinning in and out of existence and see electrons in their orbits? Apparently, bees inhabit six dimensions and use six-dimensional space to communicate with each other....so the 'waggle-dance' might just be the tip of what we understand about how bees communicate...



Bad Joke of the month alert!

Why did the bees go on strike? *Because they wanted more Honey and shorter working flowers...!*

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.

Now is a great time to curl up in front of the fire and read up and plan for the beekeeping year ahead!

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 Copley 01992 626668

Division Committee

President: Danny Nicoll

Chair/Librarian: David Tyler

Vice Chair: Mike Barke

Secretary: Carol Sissons & Nick Holmes

Treasurer: Sue Frazer & Pauline Tidmas

Mailing Officer: Lisa McCorkindale

Swarm Liaison: David Swindale

Spray Liaison: Ben Hart

Council Liaison: Ralph Cullen

Training: David McCorkindale

Website: Nick Holmes

Newsletter: Pamela Chambers