



Harlow Bees-letter

March 2019



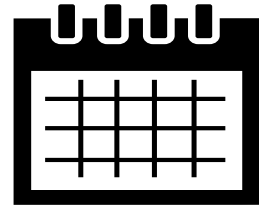
Upcoming HBKD Meetings for your diary:

March meeting

7th March 2019 at 8.00 pm – 10.00 pm – **Understanding and Managing Swarms** – Khalil Atta

April meeting

8th April 2019 at 8.00 pm – 10.00 pm – **Fun with Pollen Traps** – Robert Smith



Secretary Notices:



The February talk on the *Plastic Crisis* had an audience of 18, which was good for time of the year. It generated lots of discussion and made us think about our responsibilities and options as beekeepers regarding plastic usage.

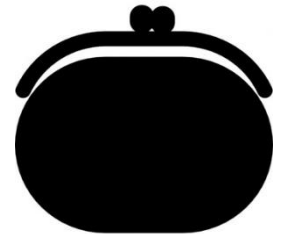
The calendar for 2019 is nearly complete but do let me know if there are any subjects you would particularly like me to look for a speaker to cover.

Treasurer/Membership Notices:

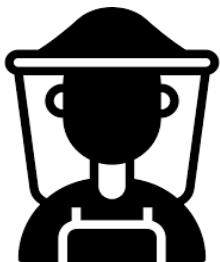
Subscriptions:

Have you paid Your subscription? Please speak with Sue or Pauline if you have been remiss...

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



Beekeeping notes for March:



The weather will be warming up a bit now but may still be cold at night: remember the 'Beast from the East' this time last year? So, don't get complacent and start removing entrance bars or poking around in the hive and brood - that may disrupt and upset the bees resulting in the death of the Queen.

Asian Hornet Queens will start to emerge too and will be on the look-out for food and nest sites. Keep those 'peepers peeled' and either set up traps or if you do see one, inform your local Bee Inspector asap!

Apiary Jobs for March:

- Check beehives are intact; clear hive entrances of hive debris, leaves, snow and cleansing flight 'debris'!
- Heft the hives to make sure there is still plenty of stores for the bees
- Feed bee's fondant, if stores are low
- Start making up new frames with foundation ready for the season ahead – you'll be glad you did!!

Other dates for your diary:

Beetradex:

9th March 2019 – Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire

Essex Beekeepers Ass. (EBKA)

16th March 2019, 2 pm Writtle University College , Writtle CM1 3RP

Cambridge Seminar:

Beekeeping in the 21st Century - 23rd March 2019 ww.cbka.org.uk

Herts BBKA Annual Spring Show:

23rd March, Welwyn (see details on HBKA website for address directions)

The Spring Convention:

12th – 14th April 2019, Harper Adams University, Shropshire

Did you know?

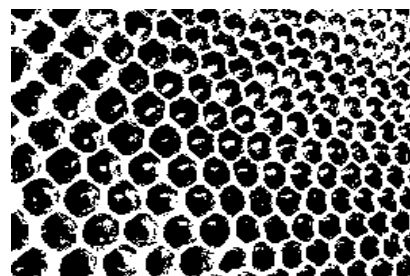


Folklore and Superstition:

In Hindu mythology, Vishnu, Krishna and Indra were called Madhava, those born of nectar and symbolised by the bee. Vishnu is often depicted as a blue bee resting on a lotus flower that represents life, resurrection and nature. Krishna is the reincarnation of Vishnu and has a blue bee on his forehead. Kama is the Indian God of Love and is depicted with a bow with a string of bees.

Famous Beekeepers:

'Flea' the bass guitar player from the Red Hot Chilli Peppers keeps at least three fully established beehives in his back garden. He regularly posts images on social media of himself tending to his bees and promoting beekeeping (without his guitar)!



Curious Corner:

Honeycombs are the most efficiently built structures in nature: the walls of the cells meet a precise 120 degree angle, making the cell a perfect hexagon.

Bad Joke of the month alert! Where do bees go on holiday? *Stingapore and Beejing!*

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 and may need.



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: 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