



# Harlow Bees

## JULY 2019

### Newsletter



#### Upcoming HBKD Meetings for your diary:

**July meeting:**

4<sup>th</sup> July 2019 at 8.00 pm – 9.00 pm – **Preparations for Honey Shows\*\*** - Mike Barke

**August meeting:**

1<sup>st</sup> August at 8.00 pm – 09.00 pm – **Drone laying Queens and The Basic Assessment exam** – Jane Ridler



#### Secretary Notices:



Last month's talk on **Bee Stings** was well attended. As well as hearing about the physiology and chemistry of the bee sting and general precautions to take, there was lively audience participation in the many reasons why honey bees will sting. Failing queens, rough handling, inclement weather were among some of the reasons. One interesting idea was, that when a bee stings another animal, the chemical given off has the same chemical compound and smell as banana oil. So, masking the smell of stings and skipping the breakfast banana might help! There was a suggestion they can detect our fear and nervousness, so a good reason to 'Keep Calm and Carry On'.

We have a very busy July – 7<sup>th</sup> – Matching Green Classic Car Show, 21<sup>st</sup> – Hallingbury Flower Show, 28<sup>th</sup> – Parndon Wood Bee Day. ***If you would like to come along and help and sell your honey and hive products, please let me know: new guidance on what can be sold will be sent to you soon.*** Also, we are very short on helpers for these shows, so any help would be really appreciated! Tel: Carol 0795 822 7413

#### Treasurer & Membership Secretary:

Since the start of the New Year where we lost 6 Full Members, we have now gained 3 new Full Members and 2 Associates. So at this point in time, we have:

- 77 Full Registered members**
- 6 Partner Members**
- 1 Honorary Full Member**
- 12 Associate Members**
- 2 Juniors**
- 1 Honorary Associate Member**



We started this year with £3562.24 and to date, have £3397.83. Our income this year will be further diminished by the absence of the 'Introduction to Beekeeping Course'.

One of our regular income sources is the monthly raffle that is held at the meeting - this helps to cover the cost of hiring the hall and pay towards refreshments. To keep our costs down further, it really helps if members are able to contribute a raffle prize from time to time too – and is much appreciated, so thank you to those individuals who regularly provide raffle prizes!

#### Beekeeping notes for July:



Hopefully, the Bees have given up on swarming now (!) and are more intent on bringing in lots and lots of nectar now that the June dirth is over and the bees are building up their stores! So, make sure you have plenty of spare supers, preferably with lovely drawn out comb ready to add to the hive to be filled!

Regular inspections are strongly recommended. Continue to keep a look-out for the Asian Hornet and complete Varroa checks using IPM techniques, so that there is no chance of the nectar becoming contaminated.

**July Forage:**

Borage, Bindweed, Clover, Dahlia, Foxglove, Hebe, Honeywort, Lavender, Lime, Lupin, Meadowsweet, Mint, Phacelia (Tansy), Poppy, Rosebay Willowherb, Thyme, Wallflower, Wild Marjoram.

## Did you know?

**Folklore, Superstition and Religion:** During the Jewish celebrations of the ritual Rosh Hashana (Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September), symbolic foods are consumed after being dipped into honey, in the hope of an auspicious and happy new year.

**Famous Beekeepers:** Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall has now taken up the 'craft' at Highgrove, as reported recently in the Sunday Newspapers, having just installed NINE new beehives – but not just any ol' beehives – check out these Beauts!!



**Curious Corner:** Did you know that bees cannot see the colour red? Bees base their interpretation of colour on ultraviolet light, so see mainly greens and blues....So, does that mean that we Beekeepers could, in theory, dress up in red and 'surprise' them during an inspection??! I suppose it's not a very good idea as I'm sure they would 'surprise' Us back - with 'surprise' stings!!

**Very, very Bad Bee joke of the month:** What kind of bees make milk? 'Boo-bees....' – Tee-hee -hee - 'Boo-bees'!!

## Dates for your diary:



<b>Annual Classic &amp; Sports Car Show:</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup> July 2019</b> , Matching Green, Herts, CM17 0PZ
<b>Hallingbury Flower Show</b>	<b>21<sup>st</sup> July 2019</b> , 12.00 – 16.00 hrs Gaston House, Bishops Stortford, CM22 7QS
<b>Essex Honey Show**</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup> September</b> , Orsett Showground, Thurrock, RM16 3JU
<b>EBKA Conference</b>	<b>20<sup>th</sup> October</b> , Felsted School, Felsted, Dunmow, CM6 3JL

## Divisional Library:

David Tyler is the Library Monitor for the ever-growing library. David brings the books to every meeting and 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 for Sale:



### Bulk Honey Jar Orders:

Orders can only be made annually, so **orders can be made from May 2019**.

## For sale:

*New feature to the HBKA monthly newsletter: if you have any Beekeeping related equipment to sell with a value of £50.00 or more, you can advertise it here to other HBKA members: please contact Pamela Chambers.*

**Plastic 2-framed, tangential, manual honey extractor with honey gate. £60.** For more information, please contact Carol Sissons mobile number: 0795 822 7413.



## Items Always For Sale

Items for sale:	Price:	Contact:	Telephone no.
Honey Buckets:	£ 2.00 each	David Tyler	01279 730228
Wax:	Various	Roy Cropley	01992 626668

## Committee Members

Position:	Name:	Position:	Name:
President:	Danny Nicoll	Spray Liason:	Ben Hart
Chair/ Librarian:	David Tyler	Council Liason:	Ralph Cullen
Vice Chair:	Mike Barke	Training:	To be confirmed...
Secretary:	Carol Sissons	Website:	Nick Holmes
Membership:	Pauline Tidmas	Mailing Officer:	Lisa McCorkindale
Treasurer:	Sue Frazer	Newsletter:	Pamela Chambers
Swarm Liason:	David Swindale		