



Harlow Bees

AUGUST 2019

Newsletter



Upcoming HBKD Meetings for your diary:

August meeting:

1st August at 20.00 – 22.00 hrs – **Harlow Honey Show - Drone-laying queens & Basic Assessment** – Jane Ridler

September meeting:

5th September at 20.00 – 22.00 hrs – **A-Rated Homes** – Derek Mitchell



Secretary Notices:



Last month's talk on *Preparation for Honey Shows* by Mike Barke (National Honey Champion) was really interesting; useful for those of us wanting to enter the shows. Mike gave us step by step instructions of his methods and equipment used. As a judge himself, he was able to offer information on what the judges are looking for. It is important not to open the jar just before the show and let out the aroma. Presentation and attention to tiny details is the key to getting the top prizes but there are plenty of prizes up for grabs and always worth a go.

Our first show on the 23rd June at *Hatfield Heath* had lots of visitors and there was a great interest in the live demonstration bee hive. *Matching Green Classic Car Show*, 21st July was even busier. Both events were good advertising for the division and we now have over 14 people on the waiting list for next year's course.

ALERT – With the concern about the EFB breakout we all need to be diligent in our apiary hygiene. If you attend hives in different areas eg. Four Volunteers at Parndon Wood Apiary tend four other sites. Different suits, boots, gloves and tools are used at the different sites. **We should be doing anything we can to prevent the spread of disease.**

Treasurer & Membership Secretary:

Harlow Honey Show Thursday 1st August 2019

Hi everyone I hope this gets to you before the Harlow Honey Show - if not let's hope we had a good show. Just a reminder again that we need your support! Details of the show have been sent out a few times now so please arrive nice and early to give us time to book your exhibits in.

Essex Honey Show Saturday 7th September 2019

Hopefully you have now received details for the Essex Honey Show. Copies of the Show Schedule and Show Entry Forms can be printed from Essex Website www.ebka.org

There are various changes this year to how you enter the show. The submission date has changed and you must supply an envelope for your stickers. Please read the forms carefully before you submit them. Mike Barke will be assisting with taking entries up the Essex Show on the Friday morning. All exhibits will be returned (there will be no sales of any food items this year).

We are looking for volunteers to assist on show day; if you are interested please put your name forward to Carol Sissons, our Divisional Secretary.



Beekeeping notes for August:



This month if you haven't done so already, is all about removing honey supers and extracting the liquid harvest! Ideally, leave a super of honey on the bees and add a rapid feeder of syrup for a couple of weeks so that the bees don't starve, before commencing with your choice of Varroa treatment. Varroa treatments should be completed around the same time throughout the apiary or area, to knock down as many of the 'Blighters' as possible at the same time: Your colonies are only as healthy as your nearest Beekeeper's bees!

It is also strongly recommended that detailed inspections of your colonies are also completed once the supers are taken off, not only looking at the health of the individual colony but specifically for any pests and diseases. This is particularly important due to the increased reports of EFB in Essex and AFB, in the neighbouring county of Cambridgeshire. If you think you have either Foulbrood in your colonies, contact your local Bee Inspector – details can be found on the BBKA website, as a matter of urgency!

August Forage: Borage, Bindweed, Blackberry, Chicory, Clover, Cucumber, Dahlia, Goldenrod, Himalayan Balsam, Ling Heather, Mallow, Michaelmas Daisy, Mint, Poppy, Ragwort, Scabious, Sneezeweed, Snowberry, Thistle, Wood Sage.

Did you know?

Bee joke of the month: What do you call a bee that lives in America? A USB....

Folklore, Superstition and Religion: According to legend, the Ugandan Baganda people believed that the first man on earth, Kintu, lived alone with only a cow for company. He spoke to Ggulu, who lived in heaven and asked for permission to marry his daughter Nambi. Before Ggulu would agree, Kintu was tasked with five trials. For the final test, Kintu had to choose Ggulu's own cow from a selection of cattle. Nambi transformed herself into a bee and whispered into Kintu's ear to tell him to choose the cow whose horn she landed upon, so that Kintu would succeed in his trials and marry Nambi.... Back-of-the-net!!

Famous Beekeepers: Restaurateur and celebrity Chef Yotam Ottolenghi is a Beekeeper and encourages the use of 'organic honey': bees are positioned near fields growing pesticide free organically grown crops.

Curious Corner: Medieval Polish beekeepers, often kept their bees in hollowed out logs, often carved as large ladies skirts.



Yotam Ottolenghi

Dates for your diary:

Essex Honey Show**

7th September, Orsett Showground, Thurrock, RM16 3JU

EBKA Conference

20th October, Felsted School, Felsted, Dunmow, CM6 3JL

The **BBKA** is organising courses for beekeepers, with at least three years' experience, at several venues around the country:

- Somerset: August 3rd & 4th at Quantock Apiary near Bridgwater
- Wales: August 10th & 11th at Gregynog Hall, Tygynon, Nr Newtown
- Warwickshire: September 14th & 15th at BBKA Apiary, Stoneleigh
- Cleveland: September 17th & 18th, venue to be confirmed

Details of other courses will be posted on the website when confirmed. The cost of the course will be £75. If you would like to apply for a place on the course please apply through the website shop: <https://www.bbka.org.uk/pages/shop/department/training-courses> or contact the **BBKA office on 02476 696679**.

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:

The not-so-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... BTW – the honey extractor advertised in last month's newsletter - has sold!!



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		