



Harlow Bees November 2020 Newsletter



HBKD MONTHLY MEETINGS WILL RESUME – USING ZOOM ON THE FIRST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH. NEXT MEETING = THURSDAY 5th November 2020



Coronavirus or COVID-19 update: To minimise the risk of infection, all physical meetings and gatherings are still cancelled. Please wear your face mask in public and try and maintain a normal but safe routine. Refer to the HBKD, BBKA and NBU website for updates regarding beekeeping activities and above all – stay connected and stay safe.

Secretary Notices:

Autumn is well and truly here now. Although there might be less to do in the apiary and we cannot attend meetings, there are plenty of online lectures, seminars and shows lined up over the next few months to keep us all informed and updated about bees and our beekeeping community. See 'Other dates for your diary' re. The National Honey Show'.

Online events and meetings are being advertised and promoted via the 'Harlow-bees-Google-group' email notifications and via the various Essex Beekeeping Associations and BIBBA online invitations. We are all welcome to attend.

Also, our own HBKD meetings have resumed online with guest speakers lined up for the next few months, so there is plenty to sate hungry appetites for information! Please 'log-in' to our **next HBKD meeting on November 5th at 19.00 hrs, where Derek Driver will advise on 'Managing a Brood and a half'** – and let's stay connected.

The **Parndon Wood** Apiary Team will be tucking up the bees for the winter at the end of October. There are two strong colonies and they produced 188 jars of honey for Ecco which made £658 for the Division- Yay!! - It's not quite as good a crop as last year, but Ecco were very pleased with the result!

And finally....

We have at least 6 posts being vacated in January. Please let us know if you are interested in helping to run the division by taking up any of the posts listed below. If you are willing to have a go you will not be thrown in the deep end - we will assist you with your transition into that post. All these posts are important for the division to run smoothly: the more members on board the easier it is on everyone.

Committee Vacancies: We need a new **Chair, Secretary, Show Secretary, Membership Secretary, Librarian and Newsletter co-ordinator**. If you are interested in any - or all the roles, please refer to the website for more information about the responsibilities or contact David, Carol, Pauline or Pam. The next AGM will be in January 2021 and new committee members will be voted in then. It would be great to have a large and diverse committee!

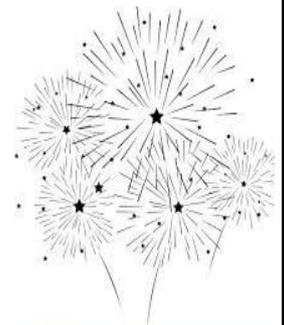
Membership Secretary and Treasurer:

With the new **subscription** year quickly approaching we are pleased to announce that there will be no increase in any of the payments for subscriptions, additional BDI or BeeCraft. We will be emailing all members at the beginning of January 2021 with the online registration link. You must then pay that subscription ASAP, by your preferred method of payment, in January. All details will be on the form provided.

Beekeeping notes for November:

Apiary Jobs for November:

- Continue to feed your bees heavy syrup. **Remember: bees need at least 40 lbs of stores to get through winter, so feed, feed, feed!!**
- Ensure that all Varroa treatments have been removed from the hives.
- Strap up, protect and insulate hives, if needed.
- Clean up, sterilise and repair equipment.
- Store away any redundant equipment and frames.
- Order and plant up bee-friendly Spring bulbs, such as Snowdrops, Aconites, Crocus, Tulips and Daffs etc.



November Forage: (subject to rainfall and temperatures).

Abelia, Aster, Fatsia, Goldenrod, Hebe, Mahonia, Runner beans, Sage, Saffron Crocus, Sedum, Strawberry Tree, Wallflower, White Deadnettle, Winter-flowering Clematis, Yarrow

Did you know?



Famous Beekeepers: As this is the month of Thanksgiving in America, I thought we should acknowledge two very famous men and former Presidents of the United States of America: George Washington, (1732 – 1799) 1st President of the United States of America and Thomas Jefferson (1743 – 1846), 3rd president of the USA.

But did you know that both Presidents were also keen beekeepers and kept honeybees at Mount Vernon? Thomas Jefferson wrote about the ‘origins of honeybees’ in his book on nature, ‘Notes on Virginia’ and it is also known that both presidents enjoyed the honey produce from their hives, with Martha Washington particularly enjoying rose flavoured honey. Yum.

Curious corner: Did you know that bees are depicted in Paleolithic rock art in Spain dating back about 2.5 million years ago?

Folklore: Bees were sacred to the Irish goddess, Brigid. She had an apple orchard in the Otherworld and her bees brought her the nectar from the trees. The products from the insects were so valuable that even the rivers of the Otherworld ran with mead.

Bad Bee joke of the month: Why do bees stay in their hives over winter? S’warm...

Other dates for your diary: **ALL COURSES, EVENTS, MEETINGS AND FETES ARE CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

The National Honey Show - 22nd – 24th October 2020: it will not be possible to hold a live National Honey Show this year. Instead, a virtual/online show will be held and will include lectures, workshops and a number of Traders in the Virtual Exhibition Hall who will be plying their wares, similar to the previous live shows. Further details can be found on the website www.honeyshow.co.uk. Free entry to the Show is by registration only: <https://crowdcomms-ltd.reg.crowdcomms.com/the-national-honey-show>

Divisional Library:

David Tyler is the Library Monitor for the ever-growing HBKD library. If you want to borrow any books, contact David to see what he has in stock that may be of interest. David is planning to store away his Rolodex filing card system for good. **We need a new Library monitor.** Contact David for more information if you would like to look after and/ or read the contents of the divisional book collection...!



Jars for Sale:



Heavily discounted and bulk orders of honey jars can be made through the HBKD in time for next year’s summer honey harvest, **from May 2021**. If you require jars in the meantime, purchase direct from BBKA recommended suppliers who also offer discounts to BBKA members.

For Sale:



Used Wax & honey separator pail – THIS IS A BARGAIN! C’mon! GO CRAZY – MAKE AN OFFER OVER FIFTY QUID!!! – You know you want one! A new one from National Bee Supplies is **£96.75** and any extra will go to HBKD funds - so you’ll be supporting your fellow HBKD comrades too! Go on – You know you need one!

Used Flow Hive for sale – including bees - £500. Just over two years old and may be of interest to anyone who fancies trying something a bit different? Please contact Brian Bull for more information.



Items always available for Sale

Items for sale:	Price:	Contact:	Telephone no.
Honey Buckets:	£ 2.25 each	David Tyler	01279 730228
Wax:	Various	Roy Cropley	01992 626668



Committee Members and Vacancies (highlighted)

Position:	Name:	Position:	Name:
President:	Danny Nicoll	Spray Liaison:	Ben Hart
Chair/ Librarian:	David Tyler	Council Liaison:	Ralph Cullen
Vice Chair:	Mike Barke	Training Officer:	Bihn Nguyen
Secretary:	Carol Sissons	Bee Health Officer:	Pamela Chambers
Membership:	Pauline Tidmas	Asian Hornet Co- Ordinator:	Louise Carr
Treasurer:	Sue Frazer	Website:	Nick Holmes
Swarm Liaison:	David Swindale	Newsletter:	Pamela Chambers