



Next Event

"Healthy Bees" Day

Website : www.wnklba.co.uk

Sunday 8th May 10.00 a.m. (Doors open 09.30)

"Health Bees are Happy Bees"

Tottenham Village Hall, then the Apiary at Blackborough End

Bring your bee suit and a packed lunch please.



We Start at Tottenham with a discussion about health bees and what diseases and parasites can affect them. Spotting these in good time is an important part of beekeeping. Local beekeeping expert (and regional bee inspector) Keith Morgan will lead the way.

After the talk there will be time for lunch and questions too – Keith's many years of experience and friendly advice are available to everyone.

For lunch tea/coffee is provided, but please bring your own venison / hog roast / ham or erm.. sandwiches !

After lunch about 2pm we move to the association apiary at Blackborough End where Keith will demonstrate how to inspect colonies for disease.

As an aide memoire, two pages from the foulbrood leaflet are on following pages – you can find the entire leaflet on BeeBase at www.nationalbeeunit.com

If you have any queries about the day, you can contact Keith beforehand on 01485 520838 / 07919 004215 or at keith.morgan@fera.gsi.gov.uk



**NH&
Margaret
Richard**

Contact US



We'll be open for the National Garden Scheme at "Clear View", Cross Lane, Wisbech St. Mary, PE13 4TX (5 mins from Wisbech) on Saturday and **Sunday 28th and 29th May** from 10am-5pm when Cranwell, clarinet and keyboard, will be playing occasional light music. Again entrance still only £3.

Then on **Saturday June 25th** 10am-5pm for the Elizabeth Svendsen Donkey and Childrens' Trust when John Crocker will again be playing with the Muddy Boots Jazz band from 11am to about 3pm. Still only £3 in our 7th year. There will be 8 other gardens open in the village on this day. – well worth the trip

Usual home-made cakes and teas, jams, pickles, plants etc for sale.

Approx 1-acre with lake incorporating large wildlife area. Secluded cottage garden with many old fashioned plants, herbaceous border, gravel garden with raised bed and pond. Large rose beds, allotments and small orchard. Plenty of secluded seating.

Did you read Maggie's article in Beecraft? We loved it !!

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We are a member of eBees, the electronic newsletter exchange for Beekeeping Associations

Bee Aware



The Friendly Beekeepers of Norfolk

Oxburgh Hall

Saturday 4th June and Sunday 5th June 12.00 – 4.00pm
“Bee Aware at Oxburgh Hall”



We will be giving a live demonstration, using an observation hive. Various activities to show the versatility of bees and their natural products. Suitable for all the family.

Booking Not Needed - Normal National Trust Admission Charges Apply... and you get to enjoy the house and gardens too.

Bee trail in the house for younger children.

Your help at Oxburgh, talking about bees or helping out on the stand, would be most welcome. Please contact organiser Jill Tinsey on 01362 694 160



No one ever forgets their first sight of Oxburgh. A romantic, moated manor house, it was built by the Bedingfeld family in the 15th century and they have lived here ever since. Inside, the family's Catholic history is revealed, complete with a

secret priest's hole which you can crawl inside. See the astonishing needlework by Mary, Queen of Scots, and the private chapel, built with reclaimed materials. Outside, you can enjoy panoramic views from the gatehouse roof and follow the woodcarving trails in the gardens and woodlands

Swarm Collection



If you would like to go on the swarm collectors list then please contact Barry Thrower on 01553 810 001.

It is often great fun and a chance to be an ambassador for beekeeping too. You must be a full member of the association so that you are covered by BBKA insurance. No one on the list charges for collection but donations to cover fuel to/from or to the Association are acceptable. Please let Barry know if you are new to swarm collection, and would to go with others to collect your first few swarms



How to examine a honey bee colony for brood disease

- Wear full protective clothing and have a smoker well lit.
- Keep the colony subdued with smoke.
- Remove the hive roof and place it on the ground by the hive (to the side of the hive or behind away from the hive entrance).
- If there are supers on the hive, remove them and place them on the upturned roof, keeping them covered to prevent robbing.
- Remove any queen excluder and examine the underside for the queen. If she is present return her to the colony. Place the excluder on the ground next to the roof

Figure 12: Opening the hive for disease inspection



- Where two boxes are used for the brood nest examine the bottom one first.
- Remove the outside comb, which is unlikely to contain brood, and lean it against a front corner of the hive – you will then have room to work.
- Take each comb in turn, and holding it by the lugs within the brood chamber, give it a sharp shake. This will deposit the bees on the bottom of the hive without harming them, the queen or brood.

Figure 13: With the adult bees on the comb you can not clearly see the brood



Figure 14: Shaking adult bees from the comb into the hive



Bee Aware

The Friendly Beekeepers of Norfolk



- Any bees on a comb may be concealing infected brood from the beekeeper's view. On combs free from bees, any abnormality is easily spotted.
- Examine the brood, both sealed and unsealed, quickly but carefully, for any signs of abnormality – such as discoloured larvae or perforated cappings.
- Look for AFB scales (see page 12 -Figure 22) by holding the combs towards the light and scanning the bottom walls of any open cells.
- **If you suspect EFB or AFB may be present, you must contact the NBU immediately for assistance** (see key contacts information at the end of the leaflet for details).

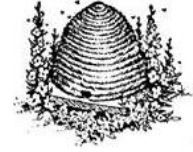
Figure 15: With the bees removed the brood is clearly visible



- Look inside any sealed cells with abnormal looking cappings after opening the cell with a corner of the hive tool, matchstick or suitable implement.
- To establish the consistency of any dead remains present, probe these with a matchstick. Dispose of the used matchstick in the smoker.
- Continue until you have examined all the brood combs; then reassemble the hive.

Figure 16: Examining comb for scales





The Friendly Beekeepers of Norfolk

West Norfolk and King's Lynn Beekeepers Association carries the following advertisements for Beekeeping and related products. The Association makes no representation, expressed or implied, as to the suitability of any such products and accept no liability for any bees, combs or related products supplied as a result of any such advertisement.

Personal adverts are free, trade adverts are subject to a minimum charge of £15. The decision of the editor is final with respect to prominence, content and size of advertisement. All advertisers must ensure that any equipment which they sell is cleaned according to NBU standards and bees free of Notifiable disease. Sellers must retain appropriate records of all sales to ensure complete traceability to Bee inspectors' enquiries.

Advertising



Bees for sale



Hive for sale



Hives and Bees for Sale

Long-time member Gordon Elsegood is cutting down a bit. He has for sale several full colonies of bees, both National and WBC. And also has several 6-frame nuc boxes for sale. He can be contacted on 01945 880791

36 Charlemont Drive, Manea, MARCH, PE15 0GA, 01354 688245

Please ensure that your members mention your association when they contact me so that your group can benefit. These items are all new and I have several of each kind. Everything is made to British Standard plans.

Enquirers should telephone to see what I have available, and I am happy for visitors to come to look at the hives. They are all made from selected red deal and have had a coat of cedar-coloured Cuprinol.

National Nucleus hive (assembled) with five unwaxed frames—£45 or Commercial Nucleus hive (assembled) with five unwaxed frames—£50. I can also supply 14 x 12 Nucleus hives (assembled) with five unwaxed frames at £50.

National Hive (ready assembled) consisting of floor, brood body, 11 frames, excluder, super with a further 11 frames, crown board and roof - £140.

As above but with an extra super and set of frames - £175.

Commercial Hive (ready assembled) consisting of floor, brood body, unwaxed frames, crown board and roof - £150

As above but with two National Supers with unwaxed frames - £200.

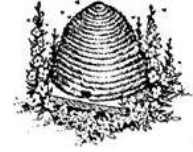
Commercial Hives are relatively more expensive than nationals because of the extra work that goes into the specialised way of making the design.

I do sell some of the hives on eBay and have 100% positive feedback and many satisfied customers! We use UPS for delivery—one nucleus hive costs £8.50 at the moment, and two cost £10.50. We can get quotations for heavier items, and are very pleased with the service UPS provide—items are typically delivered within 1-2 working days of being collected from us.

Yours sincerely Sarah and Roy Eastol

Hives and Bees for Sale

David Bancalari is cutting down a bit. He has for sale several full colonies of bees in National hives and will arrange delivery to your apiary. He can be contacted on 01603 755105



Topical Tips

What condition are the brood combs in?

The early part of the year is an ideal time to remove poor or damaged combs from the brood chamber. During the active season it is a good idea to work any sub-standard combs to the outer side of the hive so they can be removed when more or less empty in spring. They can be replaced with foundation or clean drawn comb. Foundation is best placed one comb in from the outside. Never split the brood nest with these new combs. If there is any food in the old combs to be removed you can place these horizontally over the feed hole for the honey to be cleaned out by the bees. (Paul Metcalf at www.beedata.com)

HELEN DIXON "ALLBEES" Beekeeping Supplies

GOOD STOCK OF THORNES & MAISEMORE EQUIPMENT

HIVES, FRAMES, SMOKERS, VEILS, FOUNDATION, EXTRACTORS, HONEY JARS, VARROA MESH FLOORS ETC.

BOTH ECONOMY AND TOP QUALITY ITEMS- IT'S NICE TO HAVE A CHOICE!

ALBY CRAFT CENTRE, CROMER ROAD, ERPINGHAM, NR11 7QE

07967 792042 he1en@worldofbees.co.uk WEB SITE: www.worldofbees.co.uk

OPEN WEDNESDAY TO SUNDAY INCLUSIVE

DON COOPER

CONTACT DON FOR SALES OF FULL COLONIES, NUCS, 30 lb BUCKETS OF HONEY & ADVICE ON ALL THINGS BEES!

PIPIRIKI, CHAPEL ROAD, ROUGHTON NR11 8QP

01263 761517 don@pipiriki.co.uk



Bees/honey for sale

- Full colonies (national) plus one super (solid floor/zinc excluder) £250;
- Over wintered nucs £125, six or seven frames whichever is available;
- Nucs made in 2011 with proven queens £25 per frame, i.e. a four frame nuc is £100.
- Queens, proven mated and marked, £25. A queen on a frame of eggs for difficult introductions (i.e. drone layers and others) is £35.
- Queen cells, when available, £5 from our breeding hives to make up nucs;
- 30 lb buckets of local honey £66, discount available for multiple buys.

PETER SUNDERLAND

01508 493398 email: ajudd_34@yahoo.co.uk

5 Comb Nucs of Bees for sale

With gentle, low swarming but prolific 2011 "Buckfast type" queens ideal for beginners in their first year. Supplied in reusable plywood travelling boxes from the 3rd week in May £160
To book call Brian Gemmell 01945 880837 or email greenbee@hotmail.com

Applebee Apiary Rockland St Mary

Large stocks of beekeeping equipment always in stock
Economy cedar hives in the flat or made up

Sugar in sacks

Apiguard £2 per tray, Thymol crystals, Fumidil B

6 frame nuclei and mated queens

½ lb, ¾ lb and 1lb jars

Bookings now being taken for 2011 beginners and queen rearing courses

Email or ring for details 01508 538 231

everetapplebee@hotmail.co.uk

www.applebeeorchard.co.uk

John Everett BBKA Master Beekeeper



The Friendly Beekeepers of Norfolk

BEEKEEPING TERMS EXPLAINED

Thanks to
Nottinghamshire
BKA via e bees
June 2010

LIFT The sloping slats that make up the sides of the traditional WBC hive. Many lifts can be stacked up to cover and protect the brood box & supers inside.

MOVABLE FRAME HIVE Although tried by many inventors in many countries, Langstroth patented the movable frame hive in 1851. Opening from the top with ten frames it allowed the beekeeper for the first time, to remove, examine and reposition combs.

NATIONAL The name given to the most popular style of hobby hive in the U.K. The debate over a National Standard for frame and hive size continued for years with everyone having their own preference.

NECTAR A sweet liquid produced within certain flowers as an attraction to insects. This co-operation between plants and insects ensures the fertilisation of the flowers to produce seed. Bees concentrate the nectar in the hive to produce honey and store it in cells.

POLLEN Bees go from flower to flower gathering pollen and nectar as food. In doing so, some pollen is passed from one flower to another thus fertilising or pollinating the plant. This is a vital part of agriculture and we would have very little food or countryside without bees which perform around 95% of pollination in the U.K.

PROPOLIS This is a sticky brown filler or type of glue that bees collect to seal gaps in the hive. The main source is the sap of trees.

QUEEN The only fertile female in the hive the queen will lay up to 2000 eggs a day! After emerging from the queen cell a virgin queen will feed and get use to the hive. After around a week, she will fly from the hive to mate with several drones in the air. She will return to the hive never to leave unless the colony swarms. A queen can live up to five years but often exhaust her supply of fertile eggs within three years.

QUEEN EXCLUDER A metal grid placed between the brood box and super in a modern hive. The spaces are wide enough to allow workers to pass through with honey but are too narrow for the queen and drones to pass through.

SCOUT A worker bee that flies away from the colony or swarm to look for a new source of nectar or the site for a swarm to begin a new colony.

SKEP The traditional round hive made of straw or rushes. Few skeps are in use today as it is difficult to see between the combs built inside and attend to the bees. Skeps are still used to collect swarms by many beekeepers.

SMOKER A metal container with a spout operated by a hand bellows. If a whiff of smoke is blown into a hive, top and bottom, the bees instinctively sense that something is amiss and fill their stomachs with honey from the nearest cell in case they have to abandon the hive and start a new home. With full stomachs, they find it harder to position their abdomen and insert their sting, hopefully making them easier to handle. The beekeeper fills the smoker with dry grass, rotting wood or other vegetation. Corrugated paper is no longer used as it can contain toxic glues.

STORES Parts of the comb are filled with pollen and honey producing in effect a colonies larder. The pollen and honey is fed to the young bees, as it is high in protein and carbohydrate. The honey when eaten by the bees gives them energy. Honeybees do not hibernate: they have evolved to survive the winter by storing surplus honey and pollen in the combs to eat during the cold weather.



**Notes from
the
committee
room**

The gradual updating of equipment and facilities continues with the purchase of 10 tables. A large tent should be the next item !

Barry Walker-Moore has been asked to look into getting a caravan or similar so that we can attend more shows and fulfil our role of presenting the craft of beekeeping to the public. This will (hopefully !) overcome the various journey and time needed currently to pull together everything needed for a show.

Pat Duhig is working on getting Gift Aid rebates from H.M. Revenue. Thanks to everyone for filling in all the forms this year.

Education. With the increased numbers the work that Terry has taken on his broad shoulders over recent years is being spread over a number of folks. Kate Sayer has very kindly agreed to act as administrator for the various education streams. In a similar fashion, Brian's Gemmell has an "assistant" this year - Barry Thrower with a view to taking up the reins next year.

A new 'Dartington' hive has arrived in the apiary to give folks a broader range of hives to experience during training sessions. Robin Dartington has been an enthusiastic developer of new hives for many years and is responsible for the BuzzWorks gardens in Hertfordshire.

Pat Duhig, having taken on the treasurer role, has passed on swarm coordination to Barry Thrower. David Bancalari has taken on the role of Spary Liaison.

If you fancy helping out in any way whatsoever you will find the association is a friendly and encouraging place to be - please have a positive think about this and contact Stuart on 01485 570040.

**Joining the
committee**

**Debra
McGowan**



I started the Beginners Course with Terry and Lorraine last year and got my first bees at the end of the summer. I have always been interested in nature and am concerned for the plight of the bees so my main reason for keeping them is not the honey but the bees themselves. I spend quite a bit of my time with my husband and work rescuing wild animals that are in trouble - mainly birds and hedgehogs. My garden is also an official hedgehog release site with the RSPCA.

**Di Flower -
Membership
Secretary**



Actually Di escaped the photo shoot last year Here she is in 'Who's the nanny?'

Every time that Diana and Mike open one of their hives and find that they haven't yet managed to kill their bees it's as if a tiny miracle has happened.

