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Honey bee heading for the Squill

Cornwall Beekeepers' Association
(Cowethas Gwythysy Gwenyn Kernow)

An Area Association Member of the BBKA

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CBKA President

Mary Trace

Email: cbka.president@gmail.com

Chair

Geoff Hardman

Email: cbka.chairman@gmail.com

Honorary Secretary

Mary Hardman

Hemma, Maders, Callington, Cornwall. PL17 7LL

Tel: 01579 384345

Email: cbka.secretary@gmail.com

Honorary Treasurer

Vanessa Tyler

Cleveland, Hallworthy, Cornwall PL32 9SH

Email: cbkacharity@gmail.com

Vice Chair

Peter Williams

cbka.vicechair@gmail.com

County AHAT Co-Ordinator

Michael Grindley

cbka.aht@gmail.com

Editor

Geoff Hardman

Tel: 01579 384345

gwenynkernow@gmail.com

Social Media

Robin Martin

cbka.socialmedia@gmail.com

<https://www.instagram.com/cornwallbeekeepers/>

Examinations Officer

Miggy Singh

miggysingh@gmail.com

Webmaster

Neill Darling

cbka.website@gmail.com

Equipment Officer

Anthony Godden

godden79@googlemail.com

Microscopist

Sue Hout

Phone 01566 774618

Schools Liaison Officer

Sophie Potter

cbka.schools@gmail.com

CBKA Group Contacts

Bodmin

Michael Grindley Email: BBKG.secretary@gmail.com

Bude

Neill Darling Email: budebeekeepers@gmail.com

Carrick/Kerrier

Nan Nawrocki Email: ckbkgsecretary@gmail.com

Kit Hill

Sheila Cox Facebook page: [Kit Hill Beekeeping Group](#)

Email: kithillbeekeepers@gmail.com

Launceston

Paul Burridge

<http://launcestonbeekeepers.org.uk>

Email: launcestonbeekeepers@gmail.com

Facebook page: [Launceston Beekeeping Group](#)

Liskeard

Iona Barker

Tel: 07713 244266

Facebook page: [Liskeard Beekeeping Group](#)

Email: liskeardbeekeepers@gmail.com

Roseland

Marcus Pilling

<http://www.roselandbeekeeping.org>

Email: secretary@roselandbeekeeping.org

Wadebridge

Gillian Searle

Tel: 01208 74878

Email: secretaryofwbka@gmail.com

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Useful Links and Contacts

Cornwall Beekeepers Association

<http://www.cbka.co.uk>

Regional Bee Inspector

Megan Seymour

megan.seymour@apha.gov.uk

Phone: 07775 119475

Seasonal Bee Inspectors

Marcus Pilling

marcus.pilling@apha.gov.uk

Phone: 07500 953948

Phil Jordan

phil.jordan@apha.gov.uk

Phone: 07795 503841

Bee Base

<http://www.nationalbeeunit.com>

British Beekeepers Association

<http://www.bbka.org.uk>

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From the President

At last there are more positive signs of Spring. There is more blossom, there are more insects and seasonal flowers.

Our AGM on 6th April was attended by all Groups, though those who could not be there missed an excellent talk by Professor Juliet Osborne on the work done to discover where our pollinators gather along our lovely Cornish road-side verges and hedges. It appears that the first two metres from the edge of the road are not popular as there is too much turbulence and pollution. Behind that strip, the plants and hedges are full of insect life. The Council are mowing less often, though some land owners are still unaware of the damage they do to wild life by strimming at the wrong times.

There is a balance to be found between visibility, safety and the natural world. Field strips and wild flowers are appearing throughout the County. Tree and hedge planting is a growing trend. All this helps the insects, the small mammals and the birds.

The Spring Flower Show at the Royal Cornwall Showground (it used to be held at Boconnoc) was manned by representatives from West Cornwall on the Saturday and CBKA on the Sunday. Liskeard and Bodmin Groups had attended it for many years at the previous venue. It is good that we are back with information about the bees and now about the Asian Hornet.

Please take every opportunity to support your Group apiaries and fellow beekeepers over the Summer. We never stop learning about the bees, and in the company of fellow beekeepers we can all give and take. All the best to those planning to take their Basic Assessments this Summer. Thank you to Miggy for organising venues and students and to those hosting the sessions.

Please support the Royal Cornwall Show. Your Group will need volunteers for the three days of displays, led by Jane Mills, and you can enter the Honey Show itself, organised by Penny Forsyth. You can show honey, wine, beer, mead, or wax, and there are also cookery and photography classes. Refer to the schedule and read it carefully, so that the judges have plenty to do! Honey shows exist to keep standards high using products from our hives.

The public always seem to enjoy seeing the best we can produce as well as the displays on beekeeping in our corner of the Flower Tent.

Mary Trace



From the New Chair



This year's AGM was Clair Harwood's last meeting as Chair, as she had decided to step down. Yours truly had been nominated to take over and was elected. Firstly, my sincere thanks to Clair for all her hard work and support in so many roles for the Association, covering Chair, social media and so much more. She remains a rep for Roseland, so I know I can always ask for help and advice from the previous holder of the office!

Many of you know me as Editor of these pages, or have met me at the Kit Hill Group apiary, but for those I've yet to meet, a brief introduction. Like many, I took up beekeeping later in life when a good friend and colleague sited a couple of hives in my back garden back in 2012. Bee suits and fascination followed, with a more formal start via a course at Duchy College generously paid for by my employer. Well and truly hooked, my 'keeping has grown to a few hives around the village, dotted around the local lavender farms. I'll never be as good a beekeeper as our much missed Henry Kendall, but I hope to help the CBKA continue with its Objects of educating both beekeepers and the public on our craft. I hope to catch up with many more either over a smoker or at one of the events that take place during our calendar year, be it RCS, Callington Honey Fair or a Bit of a Do.

But as I now have a couple of hats, a little request. If you wish to get in touch with the magazine editor with material for publication, please use gwynkernow@gmail.com;

but for chairman stuff, I'm using the cbka.chairman@gmail.com account which I access far more frequently. Thanks.

Geoff Hardman



Notice Board

Social Media Officer

Great news! We have a new Social Media Officer. Robin Martin from the Roseland Group has taken over the post from Clair Harwood. He will be looking after the Facebook page, Instagram and X (formerly known as Twitter).

His contact details are on page 2, so feel free to send him anything you would like to see on our social media.

Mary Hardman

Honorary Secretary

Cbka.secretary@gmail.com

EFB... Again!!

EFB seems to be swirling around in Devon and Cornwall again this season. The link below is to an article by Dr Chris Palgrave on the two foulbroods:

<https://www.bee-craft.com/beecraft-extra/articles/european-foulbrood>

Also note that the ONLY person who should be inspecting bees is the NBU officially appointed Seasonal Bee Inspector (OR Regional Bee Inspector); AFB and EFB are notifiable diseases.

On the Precautionary Principle I am shook swarming all of my colonies, now in new apiaries, that were cleared and taken off of "Standstill Notice" after last seasons EFB outbreak..... that is a lot of new brood foundation!

Hope we have a disease free beekeeping season ahead.

Dave Ledger



Notice Board

Swarm Collectors Map

It is that time of year where we start thinking about swarms. The BBKA has a swarm collector map on its website which allows members of the public to search (by postcode) for their local BBKA Insured beekeepers who they can contact re: swarms.

CBKA have decided that we would only like "experienced" people to be included and that we want them to sign up to the Swarm Collectors Code of Conduct.

If you do not have experience, and want to gain it, contact your local secretary who can put you in contact with someone who will let you shadow them and gain confidence.

Experienced beekeepers who want to be on the list please read the protocol - reproduced below - and email me at cbkacharity@gmail.com - stating your preferred contact number and that you sign up to the protocol. I can then add you.

If you are already on the list and wish to remain on you do not need to do anything - if you want to be removed please email me as above.

Thanks

Vanessa Tyler

Membership Secretary

Swarm Collection Protocol

Cornwall Bee Keepers' Association (CBKA) is committed to ensuring that honeybees are properly cared for at all times. Swarming is a natural function of honeybees and is to some extent inevitable, but it can be reduced to a minimum with interventionist beekeeping. Bees that are left to their own devices will almost certainly swarm and the general public rely on beekeepers to collect and remove them.

Collecting and dealing with swarms is a responsible task and should not be undertaken by the inexperienced. As soon as an individual agrees to collect a swarm, he/she becomes responsible for all that may take place during the process of collecting and removal of the swarm. This includes the risk of damage to persons and property.

The BBKA publishes guidance on the subject of swarming. Two important documents can be found on the BBKA website. These are entitled: *Collecting a Swarm* and *Swarm Collectors Protocol*. The former gives general guidance mainly on the process of swarm collection and hiving etc. The latter outlines the responsibilities to those collecting them. The following is an excerpt from *Swarm Collectors Protocol* but we recommend that all beekeepers read them in full.



Notice Board (cont)

RECOMMENDED PERSON:

A Swarm Collector must be:

- *A beekeeper with experience of bees and beekeeping.*
- *Be aware of, and be able to assess the potential dangers and risks associated with swarm collecting to themselves, the public and property and deal with them appropriately.*
- *Have received training & experience of collecting a swarm together with an experienced beekeeper; who will have mentored the beekeeper in the task to ensure that the beekeeper is able to undertake the task correctly and safely.*

They should be aware of the public liability insurance restrictions associated with their membership, i.e. whilst the beekeeper can request payment of expenses associated with the work or a donation to their Association, the beekeeper cannot:

- *Undertake the work for commercial gain i.e. cannot make a charge for the service*
- *Sell-on the swarm to a third party*

The Swarm Collector must be familiar with the BBKA Guidelines on swarm collection, know what to do in respect to the safe disposal of the swarm once collected i.e., hive or pass it to another beekeeper.

They must be able to communicate with the public and be prepared to show their BBKA membership card (if available) or evidence that they are current Members (i.e. the receipt for subscription for the current year).

Note that the protocol requires that:

- beekeepers collecting swarms must be experienced.
- must not charge (except for reasonable expenses) for swarm collection otherwise their insurance is invalidated.
- the swarm may be given, but not sold, to another beekeeper.

Naturally the CBKA endorses this protocol and adopts it as the substance of its swarm policy.

CBKA does not recommend that swarms are given to individuals who have little or no beekeeping experience or to individuals who are not members of either the CBKA or another Area Association Member of the BBKA. The CBKA also strongly recommends that hived swarms are quarantined for at least one brood cycle and assessed for freedom from disease before being passed from quarantine.

Compiled By Mary Hardman, CBKA Honorary Secretary, 22nd April 2024



Asian Hornet Update

In this update:

- More on the Asian Hornets already found or sighted so far this year.
- The NBU Spring Trapping
- Monitoring stations and some bait recipes to try out.

Further to the reported sightings mentioned in the April issue of GK.

An Asian Hornet has been found in one of the monitoring traps that the NBU had set out, near Four Oaks in Kent. This is approximately 3 km from where a nest was found in 2023. The specimen has been sent to the laboratory of Fera Science Ltd for analysis.

Three further credible sightings of a lone AH have been reported between 8th and 13th April:

1. One on a ferry midway between Calais and Dover,
2. By a homeowner in Folkestone, Kent, and
3. On a ferry between St Malo and Portsmouth when the ferry was close to St Malo.

Both the AH of the latter two sightings were killed but not captured.

The NBU have set out traps at the planned locations in Kent and Devon, BUT the number of traps set out in Plymouth have been greatly reduced. As of 25th April, 31 traps had been deployed in Plymouth. None were on the Cornwall side of the Tamar. No AH's have been found in Plymouth, so far. Very little by-catch and one Bumblebee released.

Members of Liskeard Group have set out nine traps to the west of the Tamar.

Jersey Asian Hornet Team member, John de Carteret, reports 51 hornets seen so far, including three (3) embryo nests found.

Verifiers:

Which brings me on to the topic of Verifiers. In 2023, over 20 000 reports were received by the NBU and of these, 151 were confirmed as "credible".

On Jersey, the percentage of reported sightings being confirmed is about 85%.

Sightings in the United Kingdom



The figure on the left is a graphic representation of the relation between reported sightings and those that were confirmed.



Asian Hornet Update (cont)

While the percentage of confirmed sightings on the UK Mainland is very low, it is heartening to see that the General Public are aware that they may see a strange insect.

With the awareness of the general public increasing as a result of recent publicity, we can expect a large number of reports to be referred by the NBU to your local AHT Coordinator.

In turn, they will need support from you.

- There is no need to do the on-line course provided by the BBKA, in order to be registered as a Verifier,
- You are covered by BBKA Insurance, both Personal Injury and Public Liability as part of your membership of CBKA (Local members are not covered), while acting as a Verifier,
- You can choose your level of involvement – ranging from; only My Postcode, to a specified distance from home and you can also specify when you will be available,
- You will be asked to attend at a location and, if known. interview the reporting person and set out a trap for a few days, returning daily to observe for about 30 minutes, and
- If no Asian Hornet sighted, it can be reliably taken as being a negative sighting.

On Baits and Bait Stations:

CBKA Council have approved the acquisition of 10 Containers of **Trappit®** and will reimburse Liskeard for their purchase of one container. Each group will be provided with one of these containers and the remainder will be held in reserve.

In addition, if a Group donated £35.00 (approximately) to the "Nestsweeper" fund-raising appeal on Crowdfunder, to obtain one Nestsweeper and avail of the match funded additional unit, (thereby acquiring two Nestsweeper units), CBKA will part subsidise this in the amount of £20.00.

See the Pollenize website at www.Pollenize.org.uk (you will have to copy this URL into your internet browser), click on "Solutions" and select "Nestsweeper".

Most important, before you decide to set out a monitoring station, please do not use a "**Kill Trap**". If we all did this, we would be more destructive to the insect population than the Asian Hornet.

Iona from Liskeard Group is trialling the various commercial traps currently available and I hope there will be a report on her findings in a future issue of GK.

There will be more on the deployment of monitoring stations in a future edition of GK as we move into the period when Workers from any nearby nest will be more abundant and therefore more readily sighted.

Some bait recipes you can make at home and might like to trial are given on the next page. The trial should be for a limited amount of time, a matter of days. If it attracts flies and wasps, it will in all likelihood, attract Asian Hornets.



Asian Hornet Update (cont)

Two bait recipes from Jersey¹:

Suggested by Chris Isaacs

1Kg sugar

2litres water

Dissolve sugar in water .

Add 2 dessert spoons jam/ jelly.

This can be kept until needed.

When ready to use, add half teaspoon of baker's yeast . In 10 minutes, it should start to froth up, becoming smelly and attractive.

Suggested by Bob Hogge

Weak sugar syrup (4-8oz sugar to 1 pint water) + 1-2 tablespoons "dirty honey" .

All brought to the boil, cooled and sprinkle with yeast.

Leave to ferment, and keep e.g. in a demijohn with an airlock (See the NB below)

Notes:

- The yeast starts off the fermentation process, giving off fruity yeasty smells that the hornets find hard to resist, and the alcohol produced puts off honey bees.
- **CO₂ is released by this process** ... Any container used must allow this to escape --or you will have a messy, sticky situation on your hands at best or, at worst, an explosive situation that could cause serious injury!

¹*Taken from the second edition of Sarah Bunker's excellent handbook 'The Yellow-Legged Asian Hornet'*

I repeat the mantras from previous months:-

1. Always be aware that an Asian Hornet Queen can emerge anywhere (at any time) and succeed in establishing her nest.
2. At this time, May and early June, take a walk around your property on a weekly basis and look up at the underside of your roof overhang, in porches and in sheds for embryo nests. (Even inside unused beehives or spares ready for the season).
3. *"The Asian Hornet is not just a Beekeepers' problem" and "Sitting on one's hands expecting others to do the heavy lifting, is not really an option"*

Till next month.

Michael Grindley,

Asian Hornet Team Co-Ordinator cbka.aht@gmail.com



Courses and Training

Beekeeping for Beginners

A 3 day course in beekeeping for beginners and novices

This course is made up of a combination of classroom studies and practical work in the apiary. The aim is to provide the student with the theoretical knowledge and the practical skills to handle a colony of bees. On completion of the course participants should have the confidence to manage their own bees throughout the year.

Topics will include: the bee colony; hive types; equipment; setting up an apiary; the beekeeping year; swarming; pests and diseases; hive products and of course, the practical handling of bees.

Bee suits will be provided, but participants should be sure to bring suitable footwear such as Wellingtons or other boots. Gloves will also be provided but if participants want to provide their own, then Marigold type gloves are recommended.

The course includes a 1 year membership to Tamar Valley Honey Co-op and a £10 voucher which can be redeemed against jars or sundries.

Our 2024 3-day beekeeping course is taking place on:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, 13th, 14th and 15th of May 2024.

Cost £195.

Please contact us at info@tamargrowlocal.org or 01579 208412 for further details and to register your interest. www.tamargrowlocal.org

Dale Wood

Natural Beekeeping Workshop for Beekeepers/Guardians

Tickets are available on the Heligan events website:

<https://www.heligan.com/events/events-at-heligan/>

Join Simon Kellam, from Just Bee Eco Hives, as he leads this workshop presenting a natural and bee-friendly approach to beekeeping. The day will include a mixture of classroom sessions, and an estate walk to observe bees and their various forms of habitats.

We will get close up to bees so you will need protective clothing. There are some spare bee suits available with advance notice.

£30pp. Hot drinks and cake are included. Please bring a packed lunch or pre-order on arrival from our Steward's House Cafe menu for delivery at lunchtime.

Friday 10th May, Friday 24th May, Friday 28th June

9:45 am for 10.00 am start - 4:30 pm £30 pp.

A portion of the ticket sales from this event will be donated to the Natural Beekeeping Trust.





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NEWBURGH, FIFE, KY14 6HA
scotland@thorne.co.uk
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OAKLEY GREEN FARM,
WINDSOR, SL4 4PZ
windsor@thorne.co.uk
01753 830256

DEVON
QUINCE HONEY FARM,
SOUTH MOLTON, EX36 3RD
devon@thorne.co.uk
01769 573086

Bees and Honey Section at the Royal Cornwall Show 6 June 2024

With just five weeks to go before the big day on Thursday 6, I'm keeping my fingers crossed for a strong showing of entries for this showpiece event. "Too soon!" I hear some of you cry but it's never too early to plan and prepare for time has a habit of running out just when you need it most- something we beekeepers know only too well. Despite the uncooperative and unpredictable weather, the busy season is upon us and it will only get busier so why not take a look at the Schedule and see if there's a class or two that appeals, there are plenty of categories to consider.

You may enter up to two exhibits in a class and you may enter as many classes as you wish at a cost of £1 per entry up to a maximum of £5, which means no matter how many entries you have in the show, you will pay no more than £5 – deep pockets not required! School and Junior entries are free and I would love to see some of those this year. Entries will be accepted up to 6pm on the evening of Wednesday 5 June, see the Entry Form for more detail.

If you're a little nervous about entering- maybe it all sounds a bit formal and daunting- then don't be, it's not the Olympics and even the most successful exhibitors were novices once. I've put together some notes on preparing exhibits for a show which I hope will de-mystify the process so go on, give it a go- you might surprise yourself! See you at the Show?

Penny Forsyth

RCS Honey Show Secretary

pennyforsyth16@gmail.com

Preparing Exhibits for a Show

Ahead of the Royal Cornwall Show, I thought I would share with you a few tips I have gleaned over the years from competitive friends, stewards and honey judges about preparing exhibits for shows. Honey shows present the perfect opportunity to showcase the products of your apiary and your own skills at preparing them and can give rise to great passion and rivalry, but they don't have to be daunting- knowledge and preparation are the key!

The paramount principle for all entries is to pay strict attention to the Show Schedule, which is appended to this newsletter. **Study it.** That in itself is pretty obvious, but you would be surprised how many people only give it scant attention. If the Schedule states "standard clear 454gm (1lb) squat jars with standard gold lacquered lids", don't enter 12oz hexagonal jars or use fancy plastic lids because you think they look better: if you enter any of these, the judge will reject



Preparing exhibits for a Show (cont)

them, even if they have the finest honey in the show in them.

The judge has a difficult job to do, especially if there are a lot of entries, so they are judging them from the basis of what they can get rid of- rather negative but true, but that's how it works. The schedule will state two matching jars, so it stands to reason that they must match: if the honey in one jar is slightly darker than in the other, then they don't match.

At a national level, when the judge is left with two sets of jars and they are both equally good, then they are looking to get rid of one. It might come down to something as petty as the jars being from different batches. We are not so pedantic at our shows!

Run Honey The product must be clean, fairly obviously: a dirty jar or a bee's leg floating in the honey is a sure-fire way of getting your entry rejected. Wash your jars before bottling- a dishwasher is a good way of doing this- and either air-dry them or polish them with a lint free cloth. Your honey needs to be finely filtered and left in the ripener for between 12-24 hours for any air bubbles or scum to float to the top. A powerful torch shone from behind the jar will show up any small particles which still manage to get through. Sometimes the honey starts to granulate; if this is the case then gentle warming will clarify this. If you get bubbles on the top, these can be removed with cling film pressed lightly on the surface and then removed of course.



When you fill your jars make sure that there is no daylight between the top of the honey and the bottom of the lid, judges hate to see this, even if you have the correct amount of honey in by weight. Make sure lids are clean as rust sometimes gathers in the threads, and make sure they have no scratches on them. This happens on new ones as well, so be careful.

Obviously, taste will have a big impact - not much you can do about that other than to proudly showcase the wonderful range of honeys produced from Cornwall's wealth of different forage environments, some of them quite exotic. However, since aroma is a key feature of the tasting experience, try to avoid the temptation to replace lids on the day of judging or you will let that delicious scent escape: transport your jars with the utmost care to avoid getting honey on the underside of the lid, though most judges will allow for a little bit of travel-staining.



Preparing exhibits for a show (cont)

As for naturally set or granulated honey, note the word "set"- it's no good entering honey into this class if it moves when tilted. It should have no gradation of streaks in it and the texture should be smooth: once again, it's the taste that wins. Frosting does occur on the sides of some granulated honey, but this in itself would not disqualify it, at least it shows that it hasn't been meddled with.

Soft set or creamed honey Well, this has obviously been touched by you in order to achieve the aim- quite difficult to do successfully. The best I can describe as to what it should be like is soft, spreadable butter ready from the fridge: you should be able to turn the jar upside down.

Cut comb honey If you are entering cut comb honey, be careful what sort of honey you are going to use. Most people would probably use heather honey, although it doesn't have to be and is sometimes in a separate class. Don't enter oilseed rape honey because it will set and the judge will more than likely take the cut comb from the box in order to taste a sample from the underside. Check the schedule once again for the weight, which for the purposes of our show is not less than 200gm (7oz) each in gross weight, and ensure that you have the correct size container for the weight. You also need the correct size cutter that will cut the comb to the size of the box. Make sure that the weight of the comb is correct or slightly over, if it is underweight it will be rejected and if the schedule states matching pair, make sure that they do match or again the entry will be rejected. Boxes and cutters can be bought from beekeeping suppliers. Alternatively you can also use a sharp knife or cheese wire to cut the comb, but I find the proprietary cutter much easier to use. The comb you use needs to be from thin unwired foundation, so it's no good just selecting a comb from any old super; you need to have wanted to produce cut comb honey.

When you have selected a frame and have carefully cut out the comb, don't put it straight in the container. Place it on a cake cooling tray so that any surplus honey can drain off- no judge likes to look at comb that is swimming in honey. Rather than preparing items for showing the day before, many producers of cut comb honey prepare their exhibits weeks ahead, put them into containers and then place them in the deep freeze: this stops the honey granulating. Remember to remove them before the day of the show.

Frame suitable for extraction Stewards and judges frequently recount how in this category they would often have before them a beautiful frame of honey in an elaborate brand new showcase (which the judge will ignore) only to find that the frame itself was dirty, with wax or propolis or both on the top bar. Make sure the frame you enter is fully capped, is nice and even and that the frame is clean. A frame of oilseed rape honey is rarely suitable as the judge will often taste the honey and if the honey is solid he/she will reject it, as it wouldn't be suitable for extraction.



Preparing exhibits for a show (cont)

Wax blocks - The wax should be clean with the edge and writing on them clean-cut, of good aroma and of the correct weight. If the schedule calls for 1oz blocks, be sure to select the ones that weigh 1oz (28g) as the judges will weigh them! (Some judges may allow a small tolerance, but don't count on it).



Give them a polish with a soft lint-free cloth to remove any bloom. With the large block of wax, look at the specifications in the schedule and stick to them.

Mead, Beers and Non-alcoholic beverages - Again, look at the Schedule and stick to the rules. Your offering should look good and also, most importantly, taste good, producing a smile of delight on the judge's face rather than a grimace of distaste.

Honey cake - If you are an experienced baker your own judgement will come into play here; you know your own oven. Honey is not the easiest thing to bake with so you may like to have a trial run beforehand if it's your first time- and you can eat the evidence if it isn't up to scratch....

Honey biscuits and honey preserves - These are good classes to go for as few people have a try at these. Follow the schedule to the letter and be sure to provide your own recipe where required.

Special Display of hive products - This is also a good class to enter as some years we have only one or two entries in this class. Make a note of the dimensions of the space the display must fit in.

Photography - Pretty obvious: entries must be the correct size and should be of something that will catch the judge's eye.

And last but not least, the **New Entrant Classes** All the other parameters apply and if you haven't been beekeeping long, then it's worth a go and you will gain useful experience and advice.

Remember: you can enter in more than one class. The prize-winners usually do! You could enter in them all if you have enough exhibits but you may only enter up to two exhibits in any one class and can only win one prize in that class: the judge will, through elimination, pick your best entry.

To sum up:

Stick like glue to the Schedule! Follow the above tips- there are many more on the internet though they can be misleading or over-technical. Remember, the judge is looking for a reason not to pick your entry so don't give them a chance to do so. And don't think that your entry won't be good enough: the judges often comment that many of the entries in Association honey shows, especially from beginners, are as good as those seen at the National Honey Show.



Pre-Season Meeting and AGM 2024

This year's Pre-season meeting and AGM was held once again in Lanivet's magnificent One And All Community Centre, with over forty members attending from right across the county.



Members were greeted with welcome refreshments courtesy of the Wadebridge Group, and were given an opportunity of some apiary shopping courtesy of BBWear.

The day's main business kicked off in splendid style, with Mary Trace introducing our speaker, Professor Juliet Osborne. Juliet's research looks at how insects and plants interact within the environment, and their role within it.

She is particularly interested in conserving and promoting bee populations, and protecting and promoting wild flower and crop pollination. To achieve this, she works closely with Cornwall Council and local land-owners by generating modelling tools for land management and with projects looking at the Cornwall Council's green infrastructure and verge management



After a pasty lunch, the main formal meeting took place, As is the case for any Charity, the AGM is an essential part of ensuring the proper management of the organisation, and appointment of those charged to make sure it meets its objectives as set out in the Constitution.



Last years AGM minutes were accepted. Mary Trace gave the President's address and thanked all those members who volunteer for the CBKA as without them it would not function. Each of the Officers provided a report on their activities over the last year, ranging from managing the finances, communicating with members, facilitating exams and modules for those wishing to improve their craft or simply offering microscopy services to members who wish to know about the health of their bees in detail.



Pre-season Meeting and AGM 2024

With regards to personnel, Clair took a bow as the AGM was her last meeting as Chair. Therefore, there are a few new faces in positions, with Geoff Hardman elected as the new Chair. Meanwhile, the other tasks are continuing with their present incumbents as listed in the front of this magazine, plus we have new Trustees representing the Groups on the Council.

Next came the brighter part of the AGM, where we celebrate achievements in many aspects of the craft. The German Plaque for the most points scored in the Basic Assessment in 2023 was awarded to Martin Wayman. The Reg Pomeroy award for the Group achieving the highest number of new members in the year went to Carrick Kerrier group.

The success of members in stretching their beekeeping expertise was celebrated, with Andree Carter, Miggy Singh, Peter Williams and Dale Wood receiving their certificates for module exam passes.

The Louis Riley Plaque for the best article in Gwenyn Kernow was awarded to Paul Burrige for consistently providing high quality interesting copy, on time and ready to use in in Gwenyn Kernow.



The George Mitchell Cup for the Member who has made a significant contribution to beekeeping in Cornwall was awarded jointly to Sue Hault, Miggy Singh and Mary Trace for their excellent hard work in organising and delivering the Module 1, Module 5 and Basic Assessment Study Groups. This nomination was in recognition of the exemplary work in furthering the CBKA's Object to "Promote and further

the craft of beekeeping, by educating beekeepers and prospective beekeepers in apiculture".

Finally, the BBKA offers Long Service Certificates for anyone with at least 40 years beekeeping experience with approximately 10-12 are awarded countrywide each year. This year, Mary Trace applied for and received certificates David Harris (70 years), Stephen Pearce (50 years) and Henry Kendall (70 years), this will be presented to his daughters.

Many thanks to the Wadebridge Group for organising and serving the pasties, teas coffees and cakes. Thanks also, to the members from other groups who very kindly brought a selection of home made cakes.

Mary Hardman

Honorary Secretary





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Bodmin Group

Our April meeting was the last indoor meeting until August.

Marcus Pilling very kindly came and spoke to us on Honey Bee Diseases & Pests, despite this day being his wedding anniversary.



After the break, Mary T, in her role as President of Cornwall Beekeepers' Association, presented Stephen Pearce with a Certificate from BBKA on having kept bees for more than 50 Years. Stephen Pearce is a founder member of the Bodmin Group of the Cornwall Beekeepers' Association.

The early meetings were at his own home, and he organised speakers and many outings for the Group. Stephen is well known for the quality of his honey and wax, and has won many awards. He has been a top exhibitor at the Royal Cornwall Show for many years and was heavily involved in the staging and preparation of the show. He frequently acted as a steward for all three days of the event.

Stephen has judged locally, notably at the Callington Honey Fair, where many local beekeepers have had honey on show. His helpful, constructive comments to exhibitors has created an enthusiasm for showing.

Next meetings are:

12 May, at the Group Apiary: Setting up a NUC

More dates to follow.

Till next month, keep well, keep calm and carry on beekeeping AND, KEEP looking up!

Michael

Bude Group

More cold, windy, chilly days have made our beekeeping activity at the apiary very unpredictable! However we finally managed to inspect all hives on the 21st April when we had our first guest inspector, retired seasonal bee inspector, Hazel Vallis. Hazel took us through each hive looking for the Queen, checking there was brood in all stages and any sign of disease.

A really useful exercise as Hazel's experienced eyes were much sharper at spotting the odd deformed wing, bald brood and West Country virus with no name!! There were no signs of preparation for swarming in any colony.

On balance Hazel felt the bees had come through the winter and spring very well considering how bad the conditions have been. We are monitoring for varroa using drop boards and using VarroMed where relevant.

Our inspection on 27 April led to a discussion on how to deal with a very strong



Bude Group (cont)

hive on a 14x12" frames that is already very defensive and bees stung several times during the brief, truncated inspection! Our visitor and local member Sean Stephenson, suggested we re-Queen with a much quieter Queen from one of our smaller colonies and talked us through how to do that safely!

We are still feeding some hives with light syrup as a couple of colonies are small or a couple have been given them new frames to draw. Despite the cold temperatures and what the text books say, we've seen a lot of wax drawn and the Queen laying in it, in just a week.

Next month we are holding a social evening at the pub with informal contributions on experiences of trapping and tracking Asian Hornets in Kent and what Cornwall and Devon are doing this season. We've invited a couple of members from Holsworthy and Launceston to come along too.

Andrée Carter

Roseland Group

We held our last evening meeting of the season on the 25th April.

It was planned as a Q&A session and discussions about our hobby with members bringing in their honey for a tasting session also.

We were delighted to welcome 3 new members to the club and they were encouraged to join our Facebook page and our WhatsApp group where members swap advice and are able to ask questions and hopefully get good advice.

The main topic that was discussed was the poor spring weather and the effect it's having on the bees. We also talked about not being reliant on swarms but be pro active and make up nucs from strong colonies.



During the evening I was delighted to be presented with my Basic Assessment certificate from Clair Harwood who is the outgoing CBKA Chair and a member of our club. I was then surprised to be awarded the German Plaque for achieving the highest points in the exam.

We have a busy summer season planned with apiary visits, the summer social party, a weekend at Tywardreath supporting the local history group.

We are also attending Heligan through the summer school holidays to engage with public

and promote the possible risks associated with the Arian Hornet.

Our evening programme starts again in September.

Martin Wayman,
Event coordinator



Launceston Group

On the 20th March we had our first Group competition for a while. With Sue Hoult acting as Show Secretary and Peter Hicks acting as Judge we welcomed a good level of entries in 3 of the 4 classes we started with.

On the night we had no entries that matched the Light run honey standard but the Other Products class had plenty of entries, so Peter Hicks suggested splitting the Other Products class into Wax products and Other Products...which all agreed made sense. So the results were:

Class 1. Best Light Coloured Runny honey. No entries.

Class 2. Best Medium Coloured Runny honey. First Prize; Paul Burridge, Second Prize: Claire Jenkin

Class 3. Best set honey. First Prize; Lesley Bollinger, Second Prize: Hilary Walters

Class 4. Best honey or honey bee related other product. Wax. First Prize: Anne Compton, Second Prize: Hilary Walters

Class 5. Best honey or honey bee related other product. . Other than wax. First Prize: Nigel Shute, Second Prize: Heather Rogers.



Attached is a photo of most of the winners.

Peter was particularly impressed by the home made nuc box that Nigel Shute had submitted. He gave lots of positive feedback on the honey entered...avoiding mis matched lids, overfilling and underfilling jars, ensuring a run honey has no sign of crystallisation or air bubbles. Set honey needs to be fully set.

We hope the event has taken away some of the mystique that surrounds these competitions and our newer

members are encouraged to enter RCS or Callington

We now have a full list of club events planned for the months ahead.

18 May Apiary visit to Peter Hicks at Pipers Pool

29 June Visit to Buckfast Apiaries

20 July Apiary visit to Chris Marshall at North Petherwin

25 to 27 May Launceston Steam Rally. We plan a display promoting our club, beekeeping and highlighting the Asian Hornet threat

10 August Our Annual BBQ

28 August South Petherwin Flowerpot Festival. The LBG will be in attendance to promote beekeeping and Asian Hornet awareness.

Paul Burridge





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Liskeard Group

The month of April was a little unusual in that we had two meetings this month – our last indoor meeting and our first apiary meeting, both were really well attended.

The indoor meeting was a bit of a catch up – ensuring everyone was up to date on the NBU decision not to put traps in the high risk areas of Cornwall, but to concentrate on the Devon side of the Tamar. We did wonder whether the hornets were likely to be more Devon centric, or whether the tolls may put them off crossing the water! Regardless, we agreed that the 'poison-chalice' was firmly sitting with us. For the past couple of meetings we have been distributing both 'Veto-pharma vespa catch' traps and our own home-made ones based on the Dover BKA design. We still have a few left if anyone would like to buy them (with Trappit) for £5.

Veto-Pharma trap



Home-made trap



We also started making up frames and boxes for the coming season, which was both useful and needed.

Thanks to Mark for organising the purchases and thank you to Chris for arranging the hall meetings this winter.

Our first group apiary meeting had an excellent turn-out, with both beginners and experienced beekeepers attending. The group was divided into three, depending on experience, with Sue, Jo and Miggy leading the inspections.

Mark, again, proved himself to be a star – he has cleaned all the old frames and had wrapped them over winter for safe storage.



Liskeard Group (cont)



We are starting our new season with excellent equipment. Thanks.

And of course, no Liskeard meeting would be complete without tea and cake!

Please note that our summer meetings will now be second and fourth Saturday at 14.30.

Any queries please contact liskeardbeekeepers@gmail.com

Iona

Wadebridge Group

A small team from the group was in charge of the refreshments at the CBKA Annual General Meeting at the beginning of April. The ordered pasties were collected in the morning and despite our concerns that there would not be enough cake for everyone at lunch time, some of those members attending from other groups very kindly brought a selection of home made cakes and very delicious they were too. Thank you to everyone who helped out and saved the day.

It has been such a wet April but Jane reports that she has been able to visit the apiary, see below:

Apiary Report

We have been fortunate and despite the changeable weather have been able to hold a couple of meetings at the Wadebridge Apiary. Our hives have all come through the winter with laying queens. We started by adding a super on each hive to give the bees more space in anticipation of some sunshine. When it's not been warm enough, we have been working in the Apiary. Anthony has made new stands for the hives as the existing ones are showing signs of wear. Thanks to David, we gave the shed a tidy, made a list of equipment for the coming season and supers freshly painted and filled with frames ready for when the weather improves.

With a few fields of rapeseed around the area we need to be vigilant and watch out for signs of swarming. We are meeting regularly on Saturday mornings at 10.30am at the Apiary at Ball. Visitors always welcome.

Gillian Searle



Kit Hill Group

A really miserable night saw our last indoor session of the spring, with weather really not suited to beekeeping! It was a night suited much better to a little light crafting.

We were delighted to welcome Jane Hampton as she came to give us a practical demo on the surprisingly simple methods she uses to make wax wraps, pouches and jug covers. A couple of our attendees had attempted making wraps in the past, resulting in much cleaning up and a need for replacement ironing board covers. But Jane's method is much quicker, cleaner and user friendly than some of the other "tried and tested" techniques we'd seen. Jane calls this her "pizza" method.



Taking a baking tray covered with a layer of aluminium foil, Jane simply spread out a foot square of cotton. Overlocked edges or trimming with pinking shears gives a nice finish. Just 10 grams of wax, (a couple of teaspoons full) is all you need, either grated off a block or more easily snapped off an old damaged or dried out frame of foundation, plus 4g (a meagre teaspoon) of coconut oil.



Dot it around the fabric just as if you were putting salami or mozzarella on a pizza base! It doesn't have to be very evenly laid out, as the next step will spread it out nicely. Simply bung the whole thing in an oven (160C to 180C) for a few minutes until the wax has soaked in to the fabric and run through to find its own level. Lift the fabric out with a pair of tongs and hold it over a drip tray until cool. Job done! Old crinkly

wraps are rejuvenated simply by reheating them and allowing the wax to remelt.



Lots of members had a go using this so simple method, and by the end of the evening we had a fine arrangement of wraps, pouches and covers with remarkably little clearing up afterwards.

From next week, we're back in the Group Apiary, starting with a disease inspection led by our local SBI.

Geoff Hardman



Carrick and Kerrier Group

The merry month of May

Well, let's hope it is. It certainly doesn't feel like "Sumer is icumen in" at the time of writing!

April meeting

Our thanks go to Penny Forsyth from Bodmin Beekeepers/RCS Secretary for her fascinating presentation on 18 April. She talked about swarms and swarming, and making sure that you are actually being called out because of swarming honey bees and not a bird box full of bumble bees (ask for a photo before you set off!)

There is a kind approach to collecting swarms, by using a skep or skeps to collect and carry the bees. She encouraged anyone collecting a swarm to look at it from the bees' viewpoint - to be patient, allow plenty of time, be gentle and to be kind to the bees - and wait for all the stragglers.



Penny Forsyth explaining about skeps

Using a skep to collect a swarm and gently guiding them in and out is preferable to vigorously shaking the cluster into a cardboard box and then unceremoniously dumping them onto a sheet when it comes to homing them into their new hive.

Skeps have been used in beekeeping for centuries and bees probably prefer them to boxes because they resemble tree holes - they are round and have a rough interior surface for clinging to. When housed in a skep, bees from a swarm will very soon start making comb.

Penny provided a very comprehensive list of kit and suggested that among others, availability, ability, agility and diplomacy are all desirable qualities for a swarm collector. So before you get that panicky call from a member of the public, be prepared with your kit and remember - be kind to the bees, put them first as they are only doing what they have always done and are just looking for a nice new home.

This was our last indoor meeting at Crofthandy Village Hall until September.

Teaching Apiary

The sessions for both beginners and improvers this year will start on 4 May (all messages about these will include the caveat 'weather permitting'). We're looking forward to welcoming the groups, the hedgerows and the meadow are starting to blossom, the bees are busy doing their thing and will soon be closely observed by newbees and improvers, helpers and tutors. We're hoping that this season as well as teaching and providing hands on experience to C&K members, we will be able to sell a couple of nucs, harvest some honey and as expand the colony numbers to eight.



Carrick and Kerrier Group (cont)

A recent addition to the Apiary grounds is a lovely PRUNUS Shosar flowering cherry with pretty pink blossom, bought with funding from the BBKA to mark their 150 years anniversary. The tree really needed to get its feet into the ground, so we took the opportunity to plant it when we could rather than arrange a formal tree planting ceremony. It rained, of course.



Gail Hammond (chair) and Liz Falkner (Treasurer) planting our lovely little tree at our apiary

Reg Pomeroy Cup

Peter Williams, our Vice Chair but in his role as CBKA Vice Chair, presented Gail with the Reg Pomeroy Cup at our last meeting. The Cup is given for gaining the highest number of new members in 2023.

It's very rewarding to be awarded, and we hope it's felt that we offer enough interest, training, support and social activities to retain their membership in the years to come.



Forthcoming events

As well as our training sessions we will be holding a BBQ at the apiary this year. C&K will be represented at the Royal Cornwall Show in June, Stithians Show in July and the Steam Rally in August, BOAD in October and our indoor meetings will resume in September.

***Nan Nawrocki,
Secretary***



Legislation on the sly – be aware

In any walk of life, ignorance of the law is no defence. But often, new regulation arrives without fanfare or announcement. For example, to combat avian flu, there are now compulsory registration requirements for bird keepers, detailing location, contact details, species and number, regardless of the size of their flock. I first heard tell of this legislation at a B4 meeting in the new year on a site visit to a new native honey bee rewilding site on Bodmin moor in the beautiful Warleggan valley.

I have a small flock of assorted chickens, three silkies who are long past their egg laying days, pets. Three LBJs... little brown jobs, who with an incredible amount of fuss produce an egg a day each... and Leslie an oversized cockerel who considers me to be the enemy and has more than once set his spurs into my long green wellies.

Now I totally accept that legislation is required to prevent the spread of disease and will comply. Despite a slight apprehension to the COMPULSORY part of the legislation, I will comply, though I have to wonder if my neighbours will?

In fact, I wonder if my neighbours will even get to hear of the changes to the law?

Sneaky little changes in law seem to go unannounced.... I did not know for instance that the law had changed in the regards to pick-up trucks SUVs and even small vans.... My Land Rover Defender and Peugeot Partner van both fall into a changed category as per UK road speed limits. A car or motorcycle is limited to 60mph on single carriage ways and 70mph on dual carriageways and Motorways, unless there is a speed restriction in place. However, my Defender and the Peugeot Partner are limited to 50 on a single carriageway and 60 on a dual.... 70 on a Motorway. It seems not to be the old "One Ton" carrying capacity but the "Train weight" the vehicle can tow (with the correct driving licence) that specifies the limitations, and not necessarily what the vehicle tax rate is given in the vehicle registration papers!

It was a "grey area" as the Peugeot Partner also has a car version... I thought therefore it was a "car derived van". Not so it seems ... 3 points later!

I am not going to bang on about compulsory registration in the UK for all beekeepers or the fact that very few 3K sweeps were implemented or that beekeepers did not receive notifications of European and American foulbrood in their area. All praise goes out to my own local SBI who despite having a difficult job coordinating and supporting all of the SBIs that had been sent to the Asian Hornet epidemic in Kent... Phil found time to help me identify EFB and destroy 20 plus of my own colonies infected with EFB. I probably brought it in with a swarm.... I have DASH, but had run out of LFDs and unlike the poor chap up country who had a similar outbreak of foulbrood, do not have a trained staff of beekeepers to help!



Legislation on the sly – be aware (cont)

But then my attention is drawn to something on the radio.

"New changes to the protective species act to include all native bee species, giving the same level of protection as bats, dormice, barn owls... great crested newts and various moths and butterflies... and a whole list of others including many invertebrates and plant species.

It will be illegal to destroy or disturb them or their habitat, roosting sites etc etc.."

Is this another sneaky change to existing legislation that will have some possibly unintended outcomes?

Without any doubt the Cornish black bee is a bee, and native, as it's been here for 10000 years, since the last ice age. Thus under this act it will be illegal to disturb it.

I presume this change to legislation includes all of our native Bumble bees, Mock Bees, Cuckoo bees, Ivy bees etc (but hopefully not wasps) but perhaps European Hornets which must surely be threatened by all the Asian hornet kill traps that get them as a by-catch. Few pest controllers are able to identify the invasive Tree Bumble.... From my own experience, most it seems do not know the difference between a honey bee and a wasp!

What are the implications to me as a Beekeeper? If I remove a colony from a chimney .. cut out from an attic or wall... is it OK if they are non native Buckfast hybrids, Carniolan or Italian honey bees, but illegal if they are black?

David Ledger

Honey Bee Rewilding and Natural Beekeeping

In the new year, I was on a site visit to a new native honey bee rewilding site on Bodmin moor in the beautiful Warleggan valley. Hoisting bees in log hive up into trees so they can live a "natural life" seems to go against my own ideas on beekeeping... I am not too sure about "rewilding" ... allowing, even encouraging, hived bees to swarm and then move into hopefully a nice tree hollow or at best a wall cavity. At worst in a chimney or under the eaves or in the attic of a panicky townie.

Often the case has been made for only keeping bees in hives with removable frames thus allowing inspection for disease, and also the destruction of feral colonies and colony sites, specifically encouraged as the bees may be spreading EFB. Even my top bar hives were frowned upon by some.

Willie Robson of Chain Bridge Honey Farm, who has been beekeeping for possibly more than my own 60 years, is questioning what the importation of non native



Honey Bee Rewilding and Natural Beekeeping (cont)

species has had. The effect seems to have been the increasing occurrences of EFB across the UK.

The hypothesis is that genetic introgression of exotic genes has caused the diluting of EFB resistance that our native bee seems to have once had developed over time. SEPA, (the Scottish equivalent of DEFRA) is researching this; specifically swabbing colonies that have not succumbed to EFB within an EFB hot spot, to ascertain if the EFB bacteria is in the hive and the bees have developed resistance. An example of Herd immunity? (for more info, see The Beekeepers Quarterly March 2024)

Perhaps on reflection by allowing rewilding with native bees and allowing them to redevelop EFB resistance, that they apparently have, can only in time be a good thing. Similarly, I am seeing hygienic behaviour towards Varroa in my own untreated (five years now) black bees where the bees are uncapping Varroa infested brood, so perhaps "let alone beekeeping" should be our way forward?

When up at Warleggan we were ushered into a field, a possible new apiary site and asked by the incumbent beekeeper where the new hives should be placed.

General consensus was to face the hives South with shelter from the prevalent South Westerly gales but not close to running water as that would increase the possibility of chalk brood (a fungal honey bee infection that likes damp) and then ... "Dave have you brought your wands?" Well yes, I never go anywhere without them! New gold plated friction free ones Santa bought me!!

Now this is always a great time for ridicule by the uninformed and great unwashed. And thus, with some trepidation, I "dowsed out" some lines of intersection that the bees would probably use for navigation and good places to place the new colonies.

How do you do that... can I try it? Then we had the spectacle of a dozen people; some famed NDBs and Master Beekeepers, renowned Editors of Bee Magazines and those of that ilk, all pacing slowly up and down with my wands responding in the time honoured fashion. The air was filled with comments like "I would never have believed that... is it magic?"

Magic or whatever, some years ago Roger P came to stay at my house and identified 3 locations in my garden where swarms would gather, and another 3 feral colony sites in an ancient barn wall at one of my apiaries. I still have those now treasured couple of bits of bent iron wire but today I'm very wary of the incoming swarms, which will definitely will be kept isolated far away!

Remember the simple beat of a butterfly wing.. *Askel Tykki Duw..* can start a revolution.

David Ledger



Cogitate, Ruminare, Contemplate

The thoughts of Dale Wood

You may, then again, you may not remember that in last month's article I drew attention to lots... and lots, of threats to the health of honey bees.

Viruses, bacteria, micro-organisms, parasites, poisons, pathogens.

All kinds of nasties that bees have to deal with.

So, how do they protect themselves against these attacks?

Well it seems that there are two systems at work here; individual immunity and social immunity. What follows has been gleaned mostly from the pages of 'Honey Bee Biology' by Brian R Johnson, a rather weighty tome but excellent resource.

Scientific research seems to show that bees don't have a particularly good individual immunity system. Honey bees have relatively few genes related to immunity. They can make use of 6 anti-microbial peptides which are available to them, whereas fruit flies have 20 and mosquitoes have 9.

But then again, bees are not scavengers. They don't seek food that is likely to be contaminated with harmful microbes and therefore they haven't needed to evolve ways of dealing with these pathogens.

What honey bees do have plenty of is social immunity.

There's an element of contradiction here, in that if we catch a cold and then socialise, there's a good chance that others may well catch a cold too. Bees live in very close knit community so they have to have a plan for dealing with constantly being in contact with others.

Social immunity of honey bees has 3 main parts to it –

1. The propolis envelope.

Propolis is made up of the sap or resin of plants mixed with wax and bee enzymes. If a plant is damaged, grazed for instance, its anti-microbial sap will leak out from the damaged area in order to seal it and protect the plant while it heals. Different plants produce sap of different make-ups, so a mixture of saps will protect against a wide range of microbes. Honey bees coat the inner walls of their nest cavity with this propolis mixture to form the envelope. They also mix propolis with wax to form the combs of their nest, so their entire living quarters act as a defence against infection.

2. A colony level fever.

The colony can raise the brood temperature, perhaps to suppress microbial growth. Brian R Johnson didn't go any further with this point but there are scientific research papers that explore this practice.

3. Patterns of interaction (there are a further 3 parts to this)

- Some bees are kept separate from others.

Foragers are most susceptible to infection because they leave the nest in



Cogitate, ruminate, contemplate (cont)

search of food, whereas young larvae are the most vulnerable colony members. By employing patterns of food exchange the larvae are shielded from direct interaction with the risky foragers.

- Infection by a pathogen alters the scent of a bee.

This concerns CHC's, cuticular hydro-carbons. A disease within the body tissues of a bee leads to there being a distinct scent on the bee's waxy cuticle. Bees carrying this altered scent are allowed less interaction with healthy bees so reducing the spread of whatever caused their scent to change.

- Hygienic behaviour.

Perhaps the most important way that honey bees deal with infection. They will uncap the cells of diseased larvae and remove them from the nest, ideally before the disease takes hold. They will haul out dead bees and deposit them away from the nest.

The presence of pathogens and the evolution of ways to deal with them. This is nature in balance.



Things to do in May

- Keep checking the bees have sufficient stores and feed if necessary. Bee Inspectors are seeing colonies extremely short of food stores within hives. Some have died as a result of starvation. Despite the forecast suggesting that temperatures will increase, colonies will still need to be checked.
- Replace old, brood comb with fresh foundation as part of your disease control program.
- Do a full brood inspection on each colony. Make sure you know how to recognise the signs of EFB and AFB and check each cell for signs of the disease. As Dave Ledger has pointed out earlier, both the foulbroods are on the rise in Cornwall.
- Add additional supers before each box in the hive fills with bees.
- Oil seed rape is flowering now, so if it's in your area, extract it before it sets in the frame.
- Plan your swarm management. Look carefully for signs of swarming when doing brood inspections. Set up a couple of bait hives to catch your own swarms. Consider splitting very large colonies to pre-empt swarming.
- It's "No Mow May", so leave the mower in the shed and learn to love those dandelions!

Plant of the Month - May

Thrift (*Armeria maritima*)



Cushions of clover-like, pink Thrift are a familiar sight of cliffs, shingle beaches and sand dunes around the UK.

Thrift is a perennial and flowers mainly from April to July, but can hang on until early autumn.

It is also commonly known as 'Sea-pink' and 'Cliff Clover' and makes an excellent garden plant for well-drained, sandy soils, providing nectar for a range of insects. It is also at home in a wildflower meadow. Thrift requires no pruning but deadhead

to keep it flowering.

Folklore says that anyone with Thrift in the garden, will never be poor. In fact, for those who can remember pre-decimalisation, the flowers of Thrift were featured on one side of the old 'thrupenny bit' - the three pence coin used until the decimal system took over in the 1970s.



For Sale or Wanted

CBKA members can submit adverts free of charge in this section, subject to available space. Please send items to the Editor at: gwenynkernow@gmail.com

Please ensure that anything you offer for sale is clean and in working order. Adverts will not be run for more than three months unless advertisers request relisting.

For Sale

01/05/24

With the loss of Brian Chellow in January, Margaret Chellow wishes to sell the following items:

2 hives of bees £. 100 each as seen

5 pkt wired shallow frame wax £5 each

9 frame manual stainless steel honey extractor £150

4 nuc boxes £5 each

1 box (72 honey jars) £25

Smoker £5

Roll of Cornish labels 500 or more £25 gold and black

2 boxes of apiguard.

Please contact Margaret at brimarchellew@hotmail.co.uk

or phone 01841 521069. evenings only.

Land available for hives in Bodmin

01/05/24

I would be interested in any beekeepers who would like to locate a selection of Hives at the Pilgrims Pride site in Bodmin. We have a large site and within this site we have a large meadow, as part of our biodiversity plan, I'm keen to meet with interested parties.

Contact: Daniel Inch, Pilgrim's Pride Ltd.

Email: daniel.inch@pilgrimsuk.com

For Sale

01/05/24

I have small number of native nucs for sale, 5 frames + 1 of fresh foundation in a BS Honey poly nuc box: £240

Also several empty BS Honey polystyrene nucs for sale in various condition, priced from £35 - £50 condition dependant.

Contact: Nick Jones

Email: beenative1@gmail.com

Tel: 07512861401



For Sale or Wanted

CBKA members can submit adverts free of charge in this section, subject to available space. Please send items to the Editor at: gwenynkernow@gmail.com

Please ensure that anything you offer for sale is clean and in working order. Adverts will not be run for more than three months unless advertisers request relisting.

For Sale

01/03/24

I have 9 colonies of bees in WBC hives.
All are overwintered queen right colonies.
The hives comes with 2 supers each and 3 lifts plus a lift with the porch.
The hives are sited just outside the Bodmin area. I'm looking for £200 per hive or £1700 for the complete dispersal of 9.
Please see picture of typical hive for sale.

Chris Tamblyn

My contact number is 07790089973.

Email: cptamblyn@gmail.com



Editor's Plea!

The For Sale and Wanted section of the magazine is becoming very popular, but some adverts are appearing for months on end. So, advertisers, **PLEASE** let me know if any or all of the items have been sold, so that I don't have to keep chasing you for an update. Having had so little response, please note a new policy:

Adverts over three months old will be removed unless you email me and ask me to continue the listing.

There is nothing more frustrating for both the buyer and the seller, than for someone to reply to an advert, only to find the item has already gone.

Geoff Hardman

Editor, Gwenyn Kernow

Commercial Advertising Rates per issue

Full Page = £5.00 Half Page = £3.50 Quarter Page = £2.00

Please Note: Payment is required before magazine insertion

