

BEEMASTER

**Nottinghamshire
Beekeepers' Association**
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<http://www.nottsbees.org.uk>

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The Editor would like to thank the following members for their contributions:

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DIARY DATES

Saturday 5 October **Autumn Honey Show, Village Hall, Lowdham NG14 7BD 2pm**
Monday 7 October **Nottingham Region**, Arnold Hill Community Centre, **Arnold NG5 6NZ**
Nottingham Region AGM & Alternative Honey Show 7.30pm
Monday 21 October **Newark Region**, Ferry Inn, **North Muskham NG23 6HB 8pm**
Friday 25 October Copy date for **November** newsletter
Monday 4 November **Nottingham Region**, Arnold Hill Community Centre, **Arnold NG65 6NZ**
If Heath Robinson were a beekeeper..... : Graham Royle 7.30 pm
Monday 18 November **Newark Region**, Ferry Inn, **North Muskham NG23 6HB 8pm**

www.nbkaeducation.weebly.com

From the editor

October is here and now it is truly autumn with falling leaves and shortening days. The equinox is past and soon we will turn the clocks back as winter approaches and turn our thoughts to next season, learning perhaps from the one just past. The long evenings are ideal for reading and study, for cleaning and making up equipment and making repairs and modifications: the sales are on- Thorne's Open Day on Saturday 12 October is always worth the journey and the Trade Hall at the National Honey Show (Thursday 24th - Saturday 26th October) offers an infinite variety of ways to spend your hard-earned cash.

Speaking of Honey Shows, we have one coming right up- the Autumn Honey Show at Lowdham Village Hall this Saturday, 5th October, at 2pm- details below, please read them and come along. On Sunday 15 September at Brackenhurst College the big yellow NBKA banners were flying and professional signage pointed the way to a splendid exhibition space set out with tables, displays, honey for sale and an observation hive of live bees: the occasion? The NBKA Annual Honey Show no less, though you wouldn't have guessed it because only 8 members came. Where were you? Nevertheless entries were judged and points awarded; the show report and results are on p6. In this issue Griff reflects on the highs and lows of the season; Alison stoically reports on a rather disappointing but high quality turnout for the Annual Honey Show and gives us all the essential details of next Saturday's Autumn show; Anne and Rob Mason have a bit of a do in Cornwall; Alan details a dilemma. Plenty to interest in BBKA News and Beecraft, particularly on this month's tasks and winter preparations: Beecraft also has advice on using acetic acid. BBKA news has cosmetics and the law, honey bee stressors and bee removal. Kettle on?

Hon. Sec. Report & Notes from Norwell October 2019

Griff Dixon

Having missed the heather this year it appears that maybe that wasn't a bad thing as stories of low yields and not so hefty supers have been heard from Nottinghamshire beekeepers.

This is a period of careful contemplation on how the season has gone and how to close things down for winter and get preparations started for next year.

I had a good start to the season expanding on the cusp of the swarming period, adding a quick ten splits and then collecting half a dozen of mine that had swarmed. The OSR went well and the spring crop was reasonably bountiful.

Having set a financial target for income this year making sure that money spent was less than money earned, so far so good. Honey sales have increased this year but nowhere near where it needs to be for the future. Bulk honey sales still need to be considered if the financial targets are to be met.

The middle and latter part of the season have not been so good: I had a few failures and two hives got a heavy dose of wax moth and will be dealt with. Many of my hives slipped into starvation mode – at least three quarters of them- and whilst I used up 100kg of sugar syrup over 20 of the hives and then topped up again with invert sugar – supplied by Ladywood Apiaries – as a first try out last week. So another 90kg have been added in. I have yet to make a visit to see how things have gone.

On adding the invert sugar the bees went a bit sugar happy and were out of the hive celebrating their good fortune. I am told that invert sugar does not attract as much robbing as sugar syrup and I think this was the case. There is no doubt that adding the last lot



of sugar syrup earlier in the month meant many visitors came calling within a few minutes whilst with the invert sugar this did not appear to be the case.

As time has gone on and I have become more familiar with my bees I find I am using the smoker a lot less – in fact if at all. The last few visits I have not bothered: one or two can get a bit tetchy but not enough to try to beat them back.

I have extracted quite a few supers this year, although not as many as I had hoped with the latter part of the season being not so good and missing the heather too. The farm based crop has been weak whilst those at Cromwell Lock and Caunton back garden have been classics with really good strong build up, stores and mighty strong colonies. Neither have required additional feeding with the Cromwell Lock hive having dead drones on the floor (It's a concrete base).

Note to self to improve the locations for a better and more diverse foraging areas.

I will need to consider varroa treatment while the weather is still warmish although the torrential rain has been problematic.

With regard to BBKA and NBKA matters the Autumn Capitation and BDI Insurance was finally successfully run through the ER2 system for the first time with the new Membership secretary getting to grips with the system, although there is still much to learn especially when renewals come round in the New Year.

The Council continue to look for improvements on how to manage the administration and functionality of the Association and ensure the membership are given the opportunity to join in and take something out of what the Association is for. The Honey Shows need you!!

This month in your apiary: October

Penny Forsyth

October is a month of transition: as the days grow shorter and cooler there is less forage for our bees and activity within the hives begins to slow. The foragers will still be working the ivy and late garden flowers to add to vital winter stores- any pollen going in now will be for storing rather than feeding to brood as the queens have greatly reduced their laying rate. The colony is still large but as there are more bees to do less work, each individual bee is able to live longer.

The house bees will still consume large quantities of pollen but, instead of metabolising this to brood food, will store it in their special fat bodies as a food reserve that will ensure that they live through to the spring and will be ready to feed the new larvae and forage for fresh pollen and nectar. The survival of the winter bees depends as much on the beekeeper as on the natural order: our colonies need to be strong, well-provisioned and free from disease. If we have carried out our September tasks efficiently and have fed, medicated and possibly united colonies then we can begin to relax a little and look forward to a quiet spell before next spring.

After the security of the colony comes the security of the hive: we need protect against physical dangers. In windy areas or where there are livestock it may be necessary to rope down hives or put a hefty brick on top of the roof. A hive full of tasty bees and honey can attract badgers and woodpeckers and mice will find the well-provisioned and warm environment an ideal place to hibernate if they can get in. Green woodpeckers can wreak havoc with your hives, drilling through wood and polystyrene to get at the tasty larvae and honey inside: a framework of chicken wire or curtain of plastic strips fastened to the hive will prevent the birds finding a firm foothold. If your hive entrances are deeper than 8mm you will need to fit mouse guards - perforated metal or plastic strips that allow bees in but keep out small rodents looking for a cosy and well-provisioned place to hibernate. Fitted too soon they can dislodge the painstakingly collected pollen loads from the corbiculae of returning foragers so use your judgement. Sugar syrup feeding and varroa treatments should be completed by the end of the month and any poor woodwork or leaking roofs remedied. Although winter is approaching there must be no let-up in our vigilance for the Asian hornet: as the leaves fall at the end of the month please look up into trees for signs of nests revealed and report any sightings.

Tasks for October

~ continue feeding if necessary if the colony has not started to form its winter cluster

~ fit mouseguards or entrance blocks with a low opening- no more than 9mm- and check regularly that entrances are clear



~ fit wire netting or plastic strips around the hive to deter woodpeckers

~ ensure that woodwork is sound and that hives are clear of the ground to avoid dampness

~ store extracted comb securely, treated against wax moth (Certan or put in the freezer for a while)

~ clean & sterilise hive parts, frames & equipment and store securely- use soda crystals in hot water (wear gloves) and scorch boxes, floors, crownboards with a blowtorch

~ maintain vigilance for Asian hornets and scan the trees regularly for nests as the leaves fall

Nottingham Region AGM & Alternative Honey Show 2 September 2019

Bob Logan

Firstly, the regional A.G.M. There will be an Acting Chairman's Report; a Treasurer's Report; and the election of Officers and members. For discussion- a proposal from Committee, to cancel the August Meeting. Also, for discussion- do we stop having refreshments?

We need members on our Committee. We meet 4 times a year and one of the main topics is our Regional Programme. Without a full committee the topics and speakers for our monthly meetings will dwindle, through lack of ideas. If we don't have interesting meetings we might as well stop. Anyone who has been a member for more than 5 years should be taking an active role in the Association, very few are. Apathy will shut us down.

You will find the Agenda and 2018 AGM minutes on p17 -19 of this issue- see you there?

Secondly, the fun bit! Our Alternative Honey Show.

3 categories; **Honey:** 1 jar (any size) for tasting by all- can be set, soft set, or liquid.

Cake baked with honey: may be a large cake or dainties.

Mead: sweet or dry.

The winner in each category will be the one with the most votes by the whole meeting.

Nottingham Region meeting report Monday 2 September 2019**Karen Burrow**

Ray Blockley of Torkard Cider, based in Hucknall, gave 'An Enthusiast's Perspective' talk on cider making.

He started making cider when he was 12 years old, and has been producing in commercial quantities since 1999.

Ray went through the 'commercial' cider making process and talked about the history of 'sweet apples' used for cider – originating from Almaty, in modern day Kazakhstan, which were hybridised with 'crab' apples.

Ray is a purist when it comes to cider, confirming that the natural state of cider is very dry, as all the sugars are fermented out. He said that the finished product will vary with changes in the weather, including the flavour and the alcohol levels (ABV). He is not a fan of sweet and flavoured ciders and produced by the mass market manufacturers – and you do not have pear cider – that is perry!!!

He covered the three taste criteria of the product – Sweetness, Acidity (sourness) and Tannin levels (level of bitterness), and also talked about apple categories – sweets, sharps and bitters (Sweet apples do NOT make sweet cider).

Ray then used pictures to illustrate his cider production process, from apple gathering, processing and through to the finished product. All this is done in sheds in his back garden.

Ray supplies local pubs with product, and attends the Nottingham Beer and Cider Festival.

Ray brought along a range of his ciders for members to taste.

Newark Region**Penny Forsyth**

Fifteen Newark Group members convened at the Ferry Inn for our customary bees and beverages session on the third Monday of the month. A wide range of topics were covered, many of them bee-related including autumn feeding, uniting small colonies and the moderate yields this year from the heather, though still better than some parts of the country. One of our newer beekeepers brought plenty of questions to the table which generated a good range of advice for her to adopt or ignore as she gains in experience- an excellent way to learn.

The poor attendance at the Annual Honey Show was a major topic of discussion since several of us were unable to participate due to commitments to other regular events- the Clumber Food Festival for some, a local annual festival weekend for me, regular Sunday fixtures for others. It was also felt that Brackenhurst does not have the same resonance with newer members and therefore may simply have been seen as too far to travel. Older members told of Honey Shows and venues past and great rivalries between members that endured for years- now fading into history, a sign of the times.

NBKA's representatives at the National Honey Show are all Newark Region members and will attend the various AGM's on the Thursday and vote on our behalf. There was some discussion about travelling by train this year as the road journey to and from Sandown Park is extremely tedious: last year more time was spent sitting in traffic than was spent at the actual show. It was decided to raise the matter at the Council meeting on 19 September.

ANNUAL HONEY SHOW AT BRACKENHURST SEPTEMBER 15th 2019 ~ RESULTS AND FEEDBACK

CAT	1st	2nd	3rd	Highly commended	TOTAL ENTRIES IN CLASS
1 Light honey	Martin Bowker	Diane Kidger	Alec Thomson	~	4
2 Med Honey	Alec Thomson Best in show	Martin Bowker	Bob Logan	Pete Bull	4
3 Dark Honey	No entries				0
4 Granulated	Martin Bowker	Diane Kidger	~	~	3
5 Soft Set	Martin Bowker	Bob Logan	Pete Bull	~	3
6 Heather	No entries				0
7 Cut Comb	Pete Bull	~	~	~	1
8 Frame	Bob Logan	Alison Knox	~	~	2
9 Wax blocks x 6	Alec Thomson	~	~	~	1
9A wax block	No entries				0
10 Mead	No entries				0
10A Beer	No entries				0
11 Honey cake	Arlene Bull	Diane Kidger	~	~	2
12 Daintees	No entries				0
13 preserves	No entries				0
14 Display	No entries				0
15 Photo	Martin Bowker	Alec Thomson	Diane Kidger	Pete Bull	4
16 Beginners	Alan Barton	~	~	~	1
TOTAL ENTRIES					25

A big **“THANK YOU”** and **“CONGRATULATIONS”** to those Members who showed up and took part in our Annual Honey Show. . . all 8 of them (*well 7 if you take my own entry out of the equation*), with just 25 entries. We have not experienced such low numbers since 2009 at Moorgreen when we had just 7 entrants, and it was my first year as a beekeeper. Last year at Stonebridge City Farm we attracted 22 entrants and 68 entries.

Many of our “stalwarts” were missing from the entry book this time.

With all due respect to those who entered, our honey Judge **Mr Alan Woodward** was very impressed with the standards of entries, so it was a case of *“quality over quantity”* despite his opening words being *“Don’t they have any beekeepers in Nottingham?”*

Alan was very torn between two of our 1st prize winners to award **Best in Show**. Bob Logan had scooped 1st prize with a particularly lovely “Frame for extraction” which was cleanly finished, with good coverage of “wet cappings” and not a trace of pollen to mar its luminosity when a strong light was passed over it. **Alec Thomson** just pipped **Bob Logan’s** frame with a really glorious entry of Medium honey to take **BEST IN SHOW**. . . so congratulations to our Master Beekeeper Alec. **Martin Bowker** is our current most prolific scooper of points with 4 x 1sts , and 1 x 2nd (*well on his way to another year of polishing the silverware*) **Pete Bull** and **Alec Thomson** were neck and neck in terms of certificates with 4 each . Novice beekeeper **Alan Barton** went home with a **1st** for his entry in Class 16 which despite being the only entry was well deserved, (our honey Judge was prepared to not award if he felt the standards fell short).

Thank goodness for **Arlene Bull** and **Diane Kidger** who submitted the only “edibles” in the honey cake category, and without whom our Judge would have left feeling very peckish. . . . Alan looks forward to his bit of cake!

Our Honey Judge was in no rush to leave once he had awarded the certificates and so Members were treated to an impromptu “*Master Class*” as Alan spent time to discuss his judgements and offer tips and advice on how to just improve the standards that little bit more. We now have “*judge’s comments*” cards which can be left by the Judge with a particular observation should it be felt necessary. These proved very helpful.



Our hosts **NTU at Brackenhurst** had done us proud with the venue and accommodation, and despite there being 2 other “events” happening on site which meant we had to do a bit of long distance car parking, we were able to load and unload on the doorstep. Our NTU liason Molly Williams looked after us very well, ensuring we had enough tables and chairs to set up. Our event was well promoted throughout the venue and they had put up very visible signs. Griff Dixon had brought along the big yellow “beekeeping” flags to place outside the Bramley building and our big yellow NBKA banners graced the railings.

Public footfall was “steady” and Alec’s observation hive was as popular as ever, manned throughout the day between Alec, Alan, Arlene, Pete and Martin, who also looked after the “honey sales” table. I understand that around **30 jars** were sold plus some lovely little beeswax tealights . Sadly this was nowhere near the kind of sales we enjoyed at “Grow your own” or even years ago at “Moorgreen” so perhaps this aspect of the Annual Honey Show is not something beekeepers can rely on to fill the coffers in the way they used to. Typically, just as we were packing up for the day, we had an influx of interested public. That is what they call “sods law”.

I am trusting that our **Autumn Honey Show at Lowdham** will be better supported, not least of all because we have a Honey Judge **Mr John Goodwin** from Cheshire (it would be nice to know he took back a good impression of our Association) and a high quality speaker in **Mr Peter Lewis**. If our Honey Shows are not well supported by our own Members I am not sure where that leaves us as an Association, and what we can do to rekindle enthusiasm and contribution.

This subject will be reviewed and discussed at our next Council Meeting on Thursday 19th September.

Thank you
Alison Knox Show Secretary



AUTUMN HONEY SHOW...

LOWDHAM VILLAGE HALL Main St, Lowdham NG14 7BD

SATURDAY 5th OCTOBER 2019

REGISTRATION FROM 1.30

JUDGING STARTS @ 2.00

Yes folks . . . before you know it we will be polishing up our 1lb jars for the next round of friendly competitiveness in the “*honey arena*”.

- Please refer to the official show schedule for rules and regs.
- Please use the “Entry Form” to list your exhibits.
- Our honey judge for the day will be a “new face” to NBKA, **Mr John Goodwin** who hails from Cheshire. We look forward to welcoming him to our show and finding out what he looks for in a prize exhibit!
- Our speaker will be **Mr Peter Lewis** who will be inspiring and educating us on “**The Different Tastes of Honey**” Peter lives in the Yorkshire Pennines, where he has kept honey bees for about 12 years. Currently he is the Chief Hives & Honey Steward at the Great Yorkshire Show, as invited and appointed by the Yorkshire Agricultural Society. Those of you with good memories will recall an excellent article in the October 2018 edition of *Beecraft* which reported on Peter’s experience as a delegate on the first training course to be presented in English by the Italian pioneers of the systematic sensory analysis of honey or *organoleptics* in Bologna.

So it just remains for me, at my last Honey Show in my official capacity, to THANK YOU for participating in whatever way you can, and to wish all entrants GOOD LUCK ~

Alison Knox ~ Show Secretary

'Bit of a Do' Beekeeping Convention, Truro, Cornwall – 21 September Anne & Rob Mason

In recent years Rob and I have attended this Convention run jointly by Cornwall Beekeepers' Association and West Cornwall BKA as part of our annual holiday to Cornwall, running my Bees Abroad shop amongst the other Trade stalls as well as attending the lectures and activities.



This year was no exception and Rob attended some interesting talks whilst I concentrated on selling, raising £139.50 for the 'Bees Abroad general project pot' and £32.00 for the BA Zambian Women's Beekeeping Project.

Members requested their wish this year to attend all the lectures instead of having a choice of workshops plus lectures, as previously organised. The focus therefore was on four talks with time for questions at the end of each session.

The first talk taken by Tony Harris (NDB) from Scotland was entitled '*Maximising your honey crop*' and focused on his management of Buckfast honeybee colonies in the North-East stressing the importance of building large healthy populations ready to make the most of nectar flows. Only the previous week he had extracted 10lbs of honey from 2 super frames! His aim was to use honeybees suited to the locality with desirable traits, young queens (culling poor ones), rigorous swarm prevention management, regular inspections with minimal disturbance and he promoted the 'shook swarm' method of moving colonies on to fresh comb. He also finds the Apimelter, costing £3000, a useful bit of kit for a variety of jobs!

Dr Ben Woodcock from the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology spoke about '*Neonicotinoid pesticides and bees*'. This balanced review covered food production for an increasing world population (estimated to increase a further 46% by 2050), crop pests and problems associated with neonicotinoid insecticides (ranging beyond bees to all pollinators and all the other species in the food chain relying on them – including ourselves!). The talk included findings from scientific studies over the last ten years and their interpretation. Varying results regarding oil seed rape from different countries for example could be linked to the fact that OSR flowers later in Germany than in the UK. Fewer 'neonics' were therefore identified in German honey because by then other flowers were available to the German honeybees making them less reliant on the OSR crop than our bees in early summer.

After lunch (pasties and cake) it was Tony Harris' turn again: this time he talked about '*Swarming from the bees' perspective*', discussing our understanding of the underlying biology to explain how and why.

Finally, there was a talk from Phil Green, a West Cornwall BKA member who as part of the local

Asian Hornet Action Team (AHAT) was involved with tracking and destroying 61 Asian hornet nests in Jersey so far in 2019. Phil spoke about the practical steps that beekeepers can take in increasing vigilance especially amongst the public who have reported the majority of sightings to date. He also spoke about the monitoring and reporting measures regarding the Asian hornet currently in place in Cornwall and in particular the value of using the *AH Watch* app on your smart phones.

The day's activities closed with the drawing of raffle tickets, Beekeepers' Question Time and closing remarks from Henry Kendall, Chair Cornwall BKA. Once again a day well spent at 'BOAD' and the local beekeepers seemed to think so too with more of them attending this year than we thought had in 2018!

My Dilemma National or Langstroth

Alan Moulton

I have my five colonies here in England- Southwell by the river in sight of the Minster that I run deep in the country on minimal basis as many people do for out-apiaries. I also spend some regular time on my pied à terre in France in the depth of the country (au fin fond d'un petit chemin) well away from anywhere and anyone as far as the bees are concerned, isolated from the world! So why not do some serious bee keeping there rather than what I do at the moment, like providing accommodation for passing swarms. .

So National hives(what I know about) or Langstroth that the locals might be familiar with and the parts available from the local farmers supply shop? I am thinking about it, so if I appear on the NBKA's web site in the wanted or for sale section, then it is me still thinking! And any advice on making such a transition would be most welcome.

Don't tell Defra!

Under a proposed new law, from 1st January 2020 it will be illegal, in Texas, for anyone to catch and rehouse a swarm of bees unless they:

- have completed an approved 160-hour course in beekeeping and swarm removal.
- carry public liability insurance of £500,000 and employer's liability insurance of £250,000.
- have a licence issued by, or on behalf of, the Texas Department of Agriculture!

Courtesy of Lune Valley Community Beekeepers, via eBees

Recipe of the month

Linda Jordan

Apple and Nut Dessert

Ingredients

4 dessert apples

Juice of 2 oranges (or equivalent in orange juice)

50-100g (2-4 oz)walnuts or hazelnuts

Honey to taste

Cream, yogurt or custard

Method

Wash the apples, grate into a bowl and cover with orange juice.

Chop or mill the nuts and add to the apple mixture.

Sweeten with honey to taste and mix well.

Put into serving glasses and decorate with cream, custard or yogurt.

Beelines: notices, news and views

From Janet Bates MB, Education Secretary

Have a look at the website nottsbees.org.uk There are:

- Items for sale items on the Website
- Apiary sites available on the Website
- Bees for sale

Module 1 study Group

The New Module 1 study group meets at the big Tesco in Hucknall at 7pm on the following dates with a view to sitting the exam in November:

8 Oct 2019 at 19:00 to 21:00

29 Oct 2019 at 19:00 to 21:00

Contact Janet Bates- janet.bates@ntlworld.com or 07973 412101

NBKA Asian Hornet Action Team News

Current UK situation

There were no new sightings during Asian Hornet Week (9-15 September). Various publicity events were held around the country by regional BKA's and a press release was sent out to all AH Coordinators for transmission onwards to local press. On 19 September I received an email from the AHC of Chelmsford BKA in Essex reporting a posting on their Facebook page regarding a possible sighting in Alfreton over the weekend of 14/15 September, which he immediately passed forward to us and Chesterfield, being the closest BKA's. He had also contacted the Non-Native Species Secretariat who had, surprisingly in his view, declined to act without photographic evidence, although a day later they did issue an id number and provide a dedicated email link for us to use once we had confirmation of the sighting. Chesterfield were eager to put their contingency plan into operation and intended to bring in Derbyshire BKA: I said we would stand by and respond as needed. There have been no developments since. The risk of an active Asian hornet nest being found in the UK is negligible during the colder winter months, but higher during the summer. Asian hornets have already been spotted this year in countries close to the UK (France and Jersey) and a risk remains at all times of year of accidentally transporting an Asian hornet when returning to the UK from abroad.

Any Asian hornet queens that may have arrived unnoticed will be developing secondary nests and more workers will be spotted as the nests grow in size, it is therefore vital to locate nests before the new queens are produced. Hornet workers and queens will be feeding on carbohydrate-rich foods such as ivy, apples, pears, grapes, therefore baits should be changed back to sugar-rich sweet bait and changed frequently. As the leaves fall there is a better chance of spotting nests in trees, often high up in the leaf canopy: we need to be looking upwards as well as at our hives- so..... **See it, Snap it, Send it!**

Non-Native Species Secretariat (NNSS) <http://www.nonnativespecies.org>

If you see an Asian hornet, the key is to get evidence so that you can report it. The easiest way is to take a photo or video, then email it with details to: alertnonnative@ceh.ac.uk or use the Asian Hornet Watch app. and please let me know pennyforsyth16@gmail.com If you have any queries about identification please send me a photo; the smart phone app has useful pictures and a means of reporting. I hope that none are seen this year but if seen the sooner the nest can be found and destroyed the less likely it will be for the nest to release queens.

Download the identification pdfs, laminate them and put them up in your apiary, on your allotment information board or local notice board.

<http://www.nonnativespecies.org/home/index.cfm>

Somerset BKA has produced some excellent information pdf's available to all: you can access them via the link on the AHAT website <https://ahat.org.uk>

Get the Asian Hornet Watch app for smart phone and tablet

Read up about traps and baits and use them appropriately- visit <https://ahat.org.uk>

If you have not already registered your apiary on Beebase then please do so now. If there is an Asian Hornet incursion in your area it is vital that every beekeeper can be located and contacted. When you register and record your apiary information you can also report whether or not you have AH traps in place. Follow the link below:

<https://secure.fera.defra.gov.uk/beebase/login.cfm>

The NBKA Asian Hornet Action Team is now registered on the AHAT website and with the BBKA. I am currently registered as Coordinator with Pete Bull as North Notts contact and Alec Thomson the City and South Notts contact. We have a further 12 team members and between us we cover several postcodes but the aim is to provide a county-wide contact network ready to react to reports of possible Asian Hornet incursions into our region and to coordinate with the National Bee Unit, the Non-Native Species Secretariat (NNSS) and other BKA's **so we need more!** There is no limit to the number of members an AHAT may have so if you would like to be involved please contact me at pennyforsyth16@mail.com for information or if you wish to join the contacts register. There is excellent information and a set of guidelines on the AHAT website <https://ahat.org.uk>

And finally.....

Support your Honey Show, dare to dream!



Nottinghamshire Beekeepers' Association

Schedule for all shows (from 2017)

Show secretary: Alison Knox, 18 Grange Road, Woodthorpe, Nottingham, NG5 4FW
Tel. 07768 153526

Exhibits to be staged by **11:00am** – for the **Annual Honey** show and by **1:30pm** for the **Autumn Honey Show**. Entries to be completed at the time of entry.

Classes

- Two 454g (1lb) jars of light honey.
- Two 454 (1lb) jars of medium honey.
- Two 454 (1lb) jars of dark honey.
- Two 454 (1lb) jars of granulated honey.
- Two 454 (1lb) jars of soft-set honey.
- Two 454 (1lb) jars of heather or heather blend honey.
- Two containers of cut comb approximately 227g (8oz).
- One deep or shallow frame for extraction. Must not be granulated.
- Six 28g (1oz) blocks of wax
 - 9a. One block of wax, not patterned, at least 454g (1 lb.) weight and at least 2.5cm. (1 in) thick.
- One bottle of mead, any type, in a standard clear 737g (26 oz.) glass bottle with a flanged stopper of cork or plastic material.
 - 10a. Honey beer, any style, although must have honey as an ingredient ,2 bottles, minimum 330ml, not commercially available.
- Honey cake. Exhibits must be made from this recipe: - 227g (8oz) self raising flour, 170g (6oz) honey, 113g (4oz) butter or margarine, 170g (6oz) sultanas, 2 medium sized eggs, pinch of salt.
 - **Method:** Cream the butter and honey together well. Beat the eggs well and add them alternately with sifted flour and salt (save a little flour to add with the sultanas). Beat all well and lightly. A little milk may be added if necessary. Fold in the sultanas and stir well. Pre-heat the oven to 180C / 325F / gas mark 4. **To Cook** Bake in a buttered circular tin, 16.5 - 19cm (6 1/2 - 7 1/2 inches) in diameter for approximately 1 and half hours. Timing is for conventional ovens and is a guide only as appliances vary.
- Honey dainties not exceeding 227g (8 oz) judged on novelty.
- Honey preserves. 1 jar of jam or fruit preserved with honey. Jar to be labelled with contents.
- Display relating to bees or beekeeping. Base not exceeding 46cm x 33cm (18 x 13).

- Photograph connected with bees or beekeeping. Only one print per entry – minimum size of print 15cm x 10cm. (6" x 4").
- Beginners or novice class, 2 matching jars of honey. Only open to beekeepers with not more than 2 years' experience of keeping bees.

Rules

- No two persons may exhibit the product of the same apiary in any class. Other than in a partnership, exhibits must be the produce of the exhibitors own bees.
- More than one exhibit may be entered in the same class by the same exhibitor but only one prize may be awarded to any exhibitor in any one class.
- All extracted honey must be in the Ministry of Agriculture squat 454g. 1 lb. jars with matching lacquered top. The stewards are empowered to transfer any exhibit considered wrongly graded to the proper class before judging commences.
- Cut comb must be in cut comb cases as for marketing. Frames must be in protective cases; no fancy edging; both sides to be visible. Wax must be cast by the exhibitor. Mead must be in clear glass and corks must be removable without the use of a corkscrew.
- Cakes and confectionary must be covered in plain cellophane, easily removable by the judge.
- Entries must be marked solely with labels supplied by the show steward. For jars and bottle labels they must be placed 2.5 cm (1 in) from the bottom; sections and frames in the top right hand corner, cakes and confections on the doily.
- The judges' decision is final.
- All reasonable care will be taken of the exhibits but the show committee will not be responsible for the loss or damage sustained either to the exhibits, exhibitors or their property.
- No exhibit may be removed interfered with by the exhibitor or any other person during the show, without the stewards' permission.
- No entry fees are payable. Places will be rewarded by place cards. For members of the Association points will be awarded thus. 1st – 5 points; 2nd - 4 pts. 3rd – 3pts. Highly commended – 2 pts. ; commended 1 pt.
- Nominated shows are those where the NBKA holds a honey show. They are namely The Annual Honey Show and The Autumn Honey Show. Points are gained towards awards, by taking points gained in both shows. The only exception being the Marshall Cup which is awarded for the most points gained in the naturally granulated class at the Autumn Honey Show.

HONEY SHOW ENTRY FORM

In order to help your Show Secretary book everyone in more efficiently and with minimal errors, it would be appreciated if you could fill in this simple "entry form" to hand over with your submissions. Just print it off, cut it out and hand it in . . . simples! (*if you have more entries than space, just extend the sheet a bit.*) ~ **THANK YOU**

- ~ ENTRANTS NAME

- ~ Category Number and type (list below)

- ~

- ~

- ~

- ~

- ~

- ~

- ~

- ~

Agenda For Nottingham Region AGM 7th October 2019, Eagles Nest Community Centre

- Apologies
- Minutes of last meeting
- Matters arising
- Chair's Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Election of Officials

Current Chair - Alec Thomson - Willing to continue

Treasurer - Bob Logan – Willing to Continue

Secretary – Karen Burrow

Committee Members - 4 members in total

Janet Bates - willing to continue

Adrian Kennedy - willing to continue

Jan Lees and Glenis Swift do not wish to continue. Nominations for all positions can be made on the form at the end of this document.

- Proposals for future meetings
- Summer break?
- Meeting Refreshments
- Any other Business

Items for inclusion under any other business to be forwarded to the secretary before the meeting.

(kburrow3@gmail.com)

Nomination for the Nottingham Region Committee - To be forwarded to the secretary before the meeting (kburrow3@gmail.com) or can be submitted at the meeting

Name:

For the Position of:

Proposed By:

Seconded By:

Annual General Meeting of the Nottingham Region of Nottinghamshire Beekeepers Association

October 1918 at Eagles Nest Community Centre , Arnold

- Apologies

Alec Thomson, Glynis Storer

Jo Brewer, Jane Turner, Mary Carey Allwood and Melanie Pope

- Minutes of the last meeting

Minutes of the last AGM were presented and minor corrections were made.

- Matters arising from the minutes

None

- Reports from Officers

4.1 Chairman's Report

Given by Rod Chapman

Rod explained the role of the Regional council and highlighted the role of raising funds for the use of county members. He went on to explain the regional structure highlighting that members of the association were welcome to attend meetings of both the Nottingham and Newark region. Details of these meetings were published in Beemaster. Rod also explained that the regional council also arranged activities for the county such as the annual auction, honey shows and family days.

Rod also informed the meeting that he would be stepping down from the chair and committee following this meeting.

4.2 Treasurers report

Given by Bob Logan

Accounts for the year presented.

Current balance £1595.19.

Funds are raised from the entry fee to meetings with the main outgoings being rent for the hall and speaker fees and expenses.

Plus £2500 awarded from Tesco Bags of Help scheme for a Queen rearing Program- this is ring fenced to set up a shed and equipment for the project at the Woodthorpe Grange apiary.

There was also the purchase of 2 oxalic acid vaporisers, which are available for loan by members.

Bob pointed out that he has served three years in the role of treasurer and was coming to the end of his time in office and would be willing to assist an understudy to take on the role.

- Nomination and election of committee members and officials

Rod/Chair Highlighted the function of the committee. These involve raising funds for local activities, deciding on a programme of events and the purchase of equipment for use by members. Members of the committee may also represent the region at the regional council.

There are currently 9 positions on the committee. Three members of the committee no longer wish to serve. Rod Chapman, Glynis Storer and Geraldine Cassidy. The Secretary thanked them for their contribution on behalf of the members.

The remaining 6 members were willing to stand again

Chair Vacant

Secretary Karen Burrow Proposed by Rod Chapman Seconded By Jan Lees

Elected

Treasurer Bob Logan Proposed by Paul Taylor Seconded By Keith Ashford

Elected

Jan Lees Proposed by Bob Logan Seconded By Diane Lowe

Elected

Janet Bates Proposed by Moira Hufton Seconded By Rob Mason

Elected

Alec Thomson Proposed by Bob Logan Seconded By Rukhsana Meherali

Glynis Swift Proposed By Jan Lees Seconded By Karen Burrow

Elected

Vacancies remain for one other committee member

- Any other Business

None

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The Editor retains the right to amend submitted articles or to reject articles which appear, in her opinion, to be unsuitable. Items which do appear may not reflect the opinions of the Council of the NBKA.

EXTRACTORS

Members may borrow the NBKA extractors - 4-frame, hand driven kept at Brackenhurst and hired from Maurice Jordan. An electric one (with settling tank) is held by Glenis Swift 0115 9538617. The EasyBee extractor which is useful for extracting frames that hold honey that has granulated is held by Frank Chambers in Calverton (0115 965 2128).

ADVERTISEMENTS

NBKA accepts no responsibility for advertisements appearing in this newsletter. Please mention **BEEMASTER** when replying to advertisements.

ADVERTISEMENT RATES

Advertisements free to paid-up members but 10p per word – minimum charge £1 to non-members. Circulation approx 300 throughout the UK and abroad.

Short adverts may be paid for in First and Second Class postage stamps which should be sent directly to the Editor. Cheques should be made out to NBKA and sent to the Treasurer.

This advertising space is available now ~ see above right for rates and terms

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