



Newsletter

July 2019

Still swarming!

It was a shame that the BBQ had to be cancelled last month due to inclement weather. Our ridiculously unpredictable weather is also inevitably having an impact on the behaviour of our bees. Having been run ragged for weeks in May with endless swarm calls, it seemed like we could finally relax and let them get on with producing honey. Now, it seems like all of our bees are suddenly producing queen cells like mad and are up for swarming again! One result is that some of us have nucs available, should anyone still be interested in getting a colony to overwinter.

Meetings

Our next meeting will be at Tony Gordon's place, in Blundellsands on Saturday 20th July, 2.30pm. We are not having a formal talk at this meeting, but will have a quiz and maybe a Q&A session. We had a lovely afternoon at Tony's last year so do try to come along.

Upcoming meetings and events in the Lancashire and North West Region:

- Friday 19th July – Preston, Managing Allergic Reactions to Bee Stings, Katherine Howarth, 7.30pm, The Intact Centre, 49 Whitby Ave, Ingol, Preston PR2 3YP.
- Saturday 11th August – Ormskirk Beekeepers, Branch Meeting Honey Show Schedule and demonstration of Honey Show samples and BBQ? 2pm, Out Apiary, Fir Tree Farm, Pimbo Lane, King's Moss, St Helens WA11 8RG
- Friday 16th August – Preston, A Worker Bee's Toolkit, John Hewitt, 7.30pm, The Intact Centre, 49 Whitby Ave, Ingol, Preston PR2 3YP.

Basic Assessment Success

I am delighted to congratulate Veronique, who took the Basic Assessment earlier this month and passed with Credit! I know that she worked hard for this and it paid off. Brilliant work Veronique!

BBKA Queen Rearing Courses

The BBKA is organising courses on queen rearing focussed on the General Husbandry standard for beekeepers with at least three years' experience. They will take place at several venues around the country, our nearest being in Wales, 10th -11th August at Gregynog Hall, Tygynon, near Newtown. Others are scheduled for Somerset, Warwickshire (Stoneleigh), and Cleveland.

The course will include theory plus demonstrations in the apiary and will cost £75.

You can apply through the BBKA website shop:

<https://www.bbka.org.uk/pages/shop/department/training-courses>

or contact the BBKA office on 02476 696679.

Nucs available

John Heath has a nuc available should anyone need one.

Please contact us through the webmail - contact@liverpoolbeekeepers.org.uk - if you are interested and we will put you in touch with John.

Research Request

Amelia Threadgould, a member of the Devon Beekeeping Association, is researching ecosystem services and honeybee foraging habits in rural and urban environments for a master's degree with The University of Warwick. She will be collecting data using a survey with the aim of finding out what policy changes would be welcomed by hobby beekeepers, for example subsidies, reduced tax on beekeeping equipment, funding for training etc. The information will also be used to calculate the contribution of hobby beekeepers and their bees to crop pollination in rural and urban settings.

If you would like to participate in the survey, which is completely anonymous, you can find it via the following link:

http://warwick.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_dgnpAIKr7QKCVHn

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