



The London Beekeepers' Association

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From our Chair



Karin Courtman
chair@lbka.org.uk

Welcome to the September newsletter. I hope all is well with you and your bees! I've been busy jarring up honey and also treating my supers to protect them

from wax moth. This year I have been using Certan again. It's a bacillus that you mix with water and then spray on the frames. It takes a bit more time than using strong acetic acid, but at least the supers don't stink of vinegar.

I've also been processing the wax from my cappings and now have some lovely fragrant blocks of clean wax ready to make candles or to trade for new foundation. I have been looking for some good recipes for the cooking honey that I collected from frames that were insufficiently capped to be sure the honey would have a low enough water content to keep. I plan to start experimenting making honey cake. Perhaps I will enter something in the National Honey Show (30th October – 1st November 2014) in the cake category. Do have a look online <http://www.honeyshow.co.uk/> and start preparing to show your wares. The LBKA sponsors some categories and although anyone can enter, it is a particular pleasure when one of our own members wins!

If you are willing to marshal at the National Honey Show, you will get free entry. They are sorting out the rota, so please contact Clive Watson as soon as you can by email if interested: watson30@talktalk.net

Some of my colonies are low on stores and I have started feeding them 2:1 syrup, even though I haven't got the Apiguard off yet, as I don't want them to starve. The cheapest sugar I have found so far is at Poundstretcher @59pence/lkilo. Remember there is no evidence that cane sugar is better than beet sugar, but what is crucial is that it has to be white sugar otherwise the bees will get dysentery.

We've got quite a lot of honey to sell from the LBKA apiaries, so let me know if you a cunning plan on how best to sell it!

Announcements

Membership renewal

Our membership year runs from 1st October so it's renewal time for those who wish to do so. All members will have now received an email with a personalised renewal link. We are also collecting information about whether members wish to help in the running of the association and how – see the relevant section of the membership form.

LBKA membership remains the same at £15, but BBKA have raised their prices slightly. At the time of writing, 52 of you have renewed. Don't forget that you'll need to renew membership by the AGM on 12th November to be able to vote. Thanks for supporting LBKA.

LBKA-Forum

In order to help members get in touch with each other more effectively, last year we trialled LBKA-Forum on our website. Unfortunately, very few people opted-in and there was not the critical mass to make it a success.

This membership year we are trialling a Facebook version of this. The disadvantage is that members have to be Facebook members to join, but people who use Facebook on a regularly basis will appreciate the fact that content will appear alongside their existing content without having to log in a check a different system. (Those without Facebook account may join it for free and low-users of Facebook can turn email notifications on).

All new or renewed members will receive an email inviting them to join.

We hope that this will make it easier for members will be able to form networks with each other, ask questions, offer advice, offer help, offer to demonstrate bee and colony manipulations and to discuss LBKA business. LBKA-forum is not visible to non-LBKA members, so it should be a safe place to discuss LBKA business and perhaps to even share your location with other members.

Don't worry if you can't or don't want to join – all important announcements will be made by email in the usual way.

Bee Basic

Congratulations to member **Helena Herholdt** for passing her Bee Basic exam earlier this year. This was organised by Sharon Basseby through the Bromley and Orpington branch of Kent

Beekeepers. This was in addition to the members who passed earlier this year (with help from Howard), putting the number of LBKA members who passed Bee Basic this year at **13**.

If you've kept bees for a year or more and have not done your BBKA Bee Basic, we strongly encourage you to do so and will announce sessions to facilitate this in the coming months.

Members who passed this year are Chris Barnes, Dominique Bernard, Simon Blatherwick, Corrine Edwards, Helena Herholdt, Nicolas Knittel, Sarah Nicholl-Carne, Jacqueline Perry, Christopher Self, Aidan Slingsby, Cerys Williams, Matthew Bruce and Paul Webb. Congratulations!

Small Hive Beetle

Dr David Aston

Chair BBKA Technical and Environmental Committee

You will no doubt by now have heard about the detection of the Small Hive Beetle in south west Italy.

The Italian and EU authorities are investigating the situation and the UK authorities have activated their contingency plans.

The BBKA is a member of Government's Bee Health Advisory Panel and this is meeting next Wednesday. We have asked that the topic be put on the agenda and the BBKA will ensure the matter receives the appropriate attention and that we can agree to and support the measures to be taken.

Members can be reassured that if the BBKA representatives at the meeting believe the response planned to track and prevent the SHB entering the UK is inadequate we will take up the matter directly with the Minister responsible for bee health.

It is important that the authorities can interact in the most effective way with beekeepers and this is best achieved through the BBKA at this point in time.

Members are requested not to heed calls to write to their MP's for the moment, as this may cause a distraction and divert resources away from dealing with the potential problem itself.

Opportunities for LBKA Members

A resident in SW14 offered a hive location in her garden in exchange for a few jars of honey back in the early summer, but there were no interested beekeepers at that time. There is a choice of large front garden accessed via a 5 bar

gate, or side access via a locked gate into the back garden. This sounds like a very interesting potential hive location. There is a similar offer from a resident in Plumstead, SE18, with an enclosed back garden, and another in the Leytonstone area, E11. Finally, an allotment association in the Valence Park area, RM8, is interested in developing a relationship with an experienced beekeeper, so that hives can be put on the site in return for some honey and maybe some informal beekeeping mentoring.

National Honey Show – get your entries in!

The National honey show is almost upon us. It will be held at St George's College, Weybridge, Surrey, KT15 2QS between Thursday 30th October and Saturday 1st November this year. In addition to the 252 competition classes being judged there is also an extensive workshop and demonstration programme running over the 3 days. Classes 241 to 243 should be of particular interest to LBKA members, as these are sponsored by LBKA for honey produced within the M25, and it would be fitting if these classes were won by LBKA members.

Last year LBKA members excelled in several categories including the LBKA sponsored amateur honey classes with members of Fulham Palace beekeepers scooping first prize in Class 243 – a jar of liquid honey in any jar size based solely on taste, aroma and viscosity. There are numerous other classes at the show including displays of multiple jars, photographic entries, honey cakes, bee related art, confectionery and cosmetics. Other members who did well at the show last year include our member Hannah Rhodes who's honey beer scooped 1st prize, our Brockwell Apiary honey and Corrine Edwards bee art and jewellery all came in as close runners up in their respective classes.

This year we would like to encourage more of our members to participate in the competitive classes and help secure glory for the association particularly in the classes which we sponsor, classes 241-243. Most classes are free to enter, or have a small entry fee. See <http://www.honeyshow.co.uk/> for details.

The deadline for submitting your entry forms is October 8, although some classes will still be considered for entry up until October 20th (subject to a £5 late entry fee).

Members of the committee are willing to help transport and deliver of members' entries to the show. **Please bring along to the next monthly meeting** (Sunday 12th October). **Entries must be fitted with your unique**

entry labels that the show secretary will send out after receipt of your application form.

If you can't make the monthly meeting, please email services@lbka.org.uk to arrange delivery. We must receive your entries by 28th October.

Good luck!

Another honey show

The Twickenham & Thames Valley BKA runs a Honey Show Competition every year for honey, other bee products, cakes, confectionery, craft, fruit and vegetables. The competition is open to non-members, and will take place this year over the second weekend in October. **A general invitation has been issued to LBKA members to enter the competition.** This may be a good opportunity for a final trial run for those members thinking of entering the National Honey show later that month. Entry is free and the schedule, rules and entry form can be downloaded from <http://www.twickenham-bees.org.uk/events.html>

AGM

The AGM will be on Wednesday 12th November at Roots and Shoots and it will include the election of a new committee. Further details will be circulated to members next month.

Next monthly meeting

The next monthly meeting is on Sunday 12th October at Fairley House Junior School (220 Lambeth Rd, SE1 7JY) on the subject of honey regulation and tasting. Please bring along some of your own honey to share!

Newsletter

Thanks to Karin Courtman, David Hankins, Richard Glassborow, Howard Nichols, Mark Patterson and Emily Scott (via her excellent blog) for their contributions this month.

Please contact Aidan at services@lbka.org.uk if you'd like to discuss writing an article.

September in the apiary: Where we should be with our colonies at this time of year

Howard Nichols
education@lbka.org.uk

The bee population will continue to decline in September but the new bees being born this month will need to live through to April, for 6 months instead of 6 weeks. They need to be healthy, free of varroa mites and associated viruses and with plenty of stores. Those members who diligently applied Apiguard throughout August should now be the proud custodians of newly born healthy bees.

Feeding the colony

This is the main job for September. A colony needs to have 35 lbs. of honey to see it through to next April. A National brood frame holds 5 lbs. and so the equivalent of 7 frames is needed. If, say, you estimate 5 frames of honey is currently in the hive then this is 25 lbs. and a further 10 lbs. is required. 1 lb. of sugar will make 1.25 lbs. of honey (honey is 80% sugar and 20% water). Therefore, using this example syrup should be made from 8 lbs. of sugar to complete the stores. Any surplus will not be wasted as it can be used next spring.

Feeding fondant in winter causes the cluster to break up and is an unnecessary disturbance. It is preferable to feed in September and so ensure that there are sufficient stores for the winter. Fondant in Winter should only be used as an emergency feed, not part of a planned strategy. The best time for winter and spring feeding is in the preceding autumn!

If feeding is left until October then the bees are unlikely to be able to evaporate down the water content to less than 20% and then cap the stores. This is likely to lead to the syrup fermenting over the Winter period.

Sugar must be white granulated sugar. Any other sugar is harmful to the bees.

If the feeder needs to be topped up then it is still essential to wear a veil. Bees may not appear to be very active if late in the month and cooler but they will surge through the feedhole if the feeder is disturbed or taken off.

Marking the queen

If the colony has a new queen born this summer then now is the best time to find and mark her.

The colony is contracting with the brood limited to just a few frames and this makes it a much easier proposition. I tend to look for a big bee in the first instance and, as there are now very few drones in the colony, the size contrast is more specific. If the queen is marked then next season's swarm control will be so much easier.

Mouseguards

If it starts to turn cold then these should be fitted late in the month or in early October.

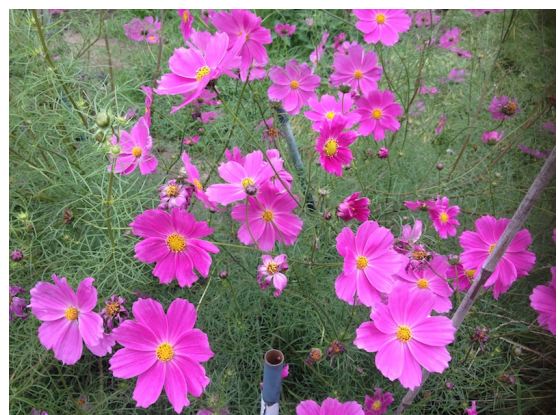
Wax Moth

My own colonies seem to have more of a wax moth problem this year. I have had to fumigate all extracted supers before the end of August as eggs were hatching. If I had left until Autumn I would have been faced with extensive damage.

September in the forage patch

Mark Patterson
forage@lbka.org.uk

September represents the last opportunity for our bees to ensure their larder is well stocked before the arrival of winter. Temperatures in October start to become chilly and whilst some plants may persist in flowering, the vast majority of flowers cease production of nectar as temperatures and the length of daylight decrease. Therefore September is a crucial month for the bees to gather their last reserves of pollen and nectar.



Cosmos



A slender mining bee on goldenrod



Helenium



Aster daisy

Probably the most valuable source of pollen and nectar to our bees for the next month and into October is Ivy *Hedra helix*. This represents the last glut of food not just for honey bees but many solitary bees, bumble bees, butterflies and Hoverflies too. One bee – the *Colletes hedera* – specialises on Ivy blossom and is seldom found feeding on anything else - so next time your neighbour starts ripping the Ivy down off the fence or tree try and give them an education into the value of Ivy for our pollinators and plea with them to not cut it back until it has finished flowering.

Other valuable sources of pollen this month come from Asters commonly known as Michaelmas Daisies, heleniums, single Daliahs, chrisanthemums, echinacea, Cosmos,

Rudbeckias and Goldenrod. The latter seven are North American in origin and in their native lands are valued sources of honey for US beekeepers.

September and October are excellent times of the year for spring bulb planting and most garden centres will by now be well stocked with a wide variety of bulbs on offer. Of particular value to bees are snow drop, winter aconite, crocus, muscari and tulips. Plant from now to late November roughly twice as deep as the bulb is high for a spectacular pollen rich display of colour come spring.

LBKA Apiaries

Richard Glassborow
LBKA Apiary officer

This month we bring you a report from the LBKA's Brockwell Park Apiary, which is managed by Petros Hahladakis who also mentors new beekeepers there. Thank you Petros.

The apiary had a much better start to spring this year having survived the winter with all three of the colonies we overwintered in national hives in good shape and growing well. This also meant that we had a quick reminder that the temperament of bees in two of the hives was not the best. With Brockwell being a LBKA teaching apiary situated in a community garden space within a busy park, having defensive and aggressive bees was not a strain which we wanted.

This was made more evident during one early season inspection in which the bees made it an unpleasant afternoon for all those involved with the apiary and the community gardens. At this point a decision was made to re-queen the two hives, and as it was early enough we could still aim to get a honey crop with which we could take the mentees through an extraction process. Although the re-queening process was completed relatively smoothly it wasn't in time for a full brood cycle to occur before the first lot of this year's mentees started coming along, which meant that they also had an introduction of what aggressive bees can be like.

This year Brockwell was marked for 10 mentees of which only a handful turned up on a consistent basis. Those that did managed to come along got more of their fair share of weekly inspections, artificial swarming and ad hoc tutorials from various members of the LBKA committee who turned up on several occasions. The mentees were also some valuable practical lessons, such as that finding a

marked queen is not always as straight forward as expected, and the importance of making sure you place the queen excluder the correct way when round when completing an inspection to save you ending up with the queen in the supers.

As the honey has now been extracted and we have reached the end of the season, we have also made the decision to go into winter with four hives. To date the hives have been situated in a protected south-facing wall in the community gardens which has made us the envy of the greenkeepers who volunteer there. With some reluctance we have now given up this space to be moved to a larger, more open and publicly viewable area in the gardens. Although being more open to the public isn't what you really want as a beekeeper, the trade-off in increasing the number of hives will allow us to take on more mentees, and this increased accessibility to the public will allow us to educate more people on honey bees.

Meanwhile, at Eden things have finally quietened down after an extremely busy season. At last the beekeeping there no longer involves weightlifting! The final tally on honey extraction is 180 Kg. In addition we have left one full super on each of 5 colonies (another 50 Kg), plus what's in the brood frames. When you think the bees have collected 3 times that much nectar to make that much honey, plus what they have eaten over the season, it's impressive.

We would now like to sell this honey to further benefit the Association so any members with contacts at delicatessens or big corporations on the lookout for environmentally credible gifts please contact apiaries@lbka.org.uk. Most of it is so far potted in 8oz jars, as seen here:



Howard's Apiary

Howard Nichols
education@lbka.org.uk

The pictures were taken in the first week of September as the Autumnal work was in progress. Those members who have taken their BBKA Basic Assessment in recent years will no doubt recognise the lay out.



This season it has had 7 hives for most of the time, has produced several nuclei for mentees and other LBKA members. It currently has 6 hives now being prepared for winter. The 1 remaining nuc has gone and is now in situ at the bottom of my garden for the winter. I can keep a better eye on it there.



Grass has been cut and encroaching vegetation is in the process of being cut back. This will ensure minimal dampness over the winter. All hives have been checked and 2 supers taken out of use and 1 leaky roof replaced. These will be repaired over the winter months. Honey supers have been removed, taken away and are in the process of being fumigated in my garden at home.

This is always a sad time for me as I know that in 3 or 4 weeks time the apiary will have changed out of all proportion and will be quiet until at least next March. The photos seem to depict the packing up process. This particular

day was very warm, the bees flying and bringing in copious amounts of orange pollen (do not know the flower). The Apiguard was still in but then removed 72 hours later when Autumn feeding commenced. Mouseguards will go on in early to mid October.

At this time of year I always reflect on the season now at an end and make a note in the beekeeping records. I use this as a guide to my beekeeping plan the following spring. An outline of ups and downs (I prefer this phrase to successes and failures) include the following:

- 12 LBKA members took and passed their BBKA Basic certificates over the summer.
- Raised and successfully mated 1 new queen by grafting larvae into a cell raising colony. This is more of a down than an up as the others did not result in mated queens for a variety of reasons. I will rework this next year.
- Successfully artificially swarmed 4 colonies. 3 other colonies beat me to it and swarmed but all 3 were caught and hived. Room for improvement there!
- Used Snelgrove method on another colony.
- Several successfully raised nuclei and gone to new homes.
- Maintained good relationships with plotheholders on the allotment and donated honey to the Open Day. No plotheholder was stung due to the apiary screen.
- Helped LBKA with its mentoring programme.

Finally, thanks to Emma Garrett Anderson and Kirsty Saddler who have enthusiastically and ably helped through the summer months.

Adventures in Beeland

*Emily's been busy! This month, **two** guest articles from Emily Scott's excellent blog: <http://adventuresinbeeland.com/blog>.*

All about the hunny

Long-time readers may remember my post back in 2011, 'Bringing home the hunny'. This was the last time we had a significant honey harvest. Back then we found our honey wouldn't spin out in Emma's fancy electric centrifugal extractor. By this summer the memory of that had faded, so as we prepared to extract the honey in Emma's dad's kitchen we were optimistic that this year would be easier.

First, we decapped the honey with a decapping fork. Once the wax cappings are removed the honey can be spun out in the extractor. Steven Benbow has a nice description of an extractor as "a sort of giant salad spinner for honeycombs" in his book *The Urban Beekeeper*. Those white buckets we're using belong to Emma's dad, who is a butcher and runs his own wholesale company (now semi-retired and only working six days a week).



The darker honey in the foreground comes from my allotment hive in Northfields, west Ealing. The lighter honey on the right comes from Myrtle's hive a few miles away in Perivale. Emma preferred Myrtle's honey as she found it more delicate and floral, while I preferred the darker allotment honey as I felt it had more oomph to it.



Decapped allotment honey - dark and rich. Time to extract.



So we put the first three decapped frames in the electric extractor, and left it to spin – and spin, and spin. Every few minutes we checked hopefully to see how much was coming out. But only a trickle gathered at the bottom. Eventually, after about twenty minutes of churning, smoke began coming from the engine. At that point we admitted defeat. Our bees have decided that if we're going to take their honey, we're going to have to work for it!

Time for Plan B(ee). We cut the honey away from the foundation and mashed it through colanders. This removed most of the wax, but it will need to be more finely filtered using muslin.



It's a slow, time-consuming process. Emma is completing it at her flat – thanks Emma!



Sadly, it means we have lost the valuable wax honeycomb cells the bees worked hard to produce. If we could have extracted the honey by spinning it out in the extractor, the comb would have remained intact and would have given our bees a head start next year.

So why is our honey so thick and awkward?

Well, what is honey? Most of us know it's concentrated nectar, reduced in water content by the bees to around 18% water, at which point they cap the honey cells with wax and it's ready to be extracted. Once nectar has been evaporated down to 18% water, what's left is mainly sugar in the form of fructose and

glucose. But the proportions of sugar types can vary enormously, so that some honeys will contain more fructose than glucose and vice-versa. On average honey will contain 38-40% fructose, 31-35% glucose, 1-3% sucrose and 17-19% water, along with about 2% minerals, pollen, protein and amino acids (The Honey Bee Around & About by Celia F Davis, Bee Craft Ltd 2009).

The type of sugars contained in honey are one of the factors affecting its viscosity – its thickness. Ted Hooper in his classic Guide to Bees and Honey (2010) explains the varying viscosity of honey:

“Viscosity is the name given to the property of a fluid which causes it to flow slowly, or which resists an object falling through it. ... The viscosity of honey is mainly controlled by its gravity, and the lower the water content... the greater will be the viscosity.”

He goes on to say:

“Viscosity is also increased by the amount of colloid material in the honey. The colloids, which are probably small pieces of solid substances and large molecules and include proteins [pollen?], have a similar electric charge and so repel each other. This repulsion again offers a resistance to movement and increases the viscosity, higher in dark than light honey. The extreme example of this is heather honey which has moved beyond a viscous fluid to become a gel.”

He also mentions that honeys with a greater than average proportion of glucose to fructose will granulate more quickly, as glucose is less soluble in water than fructose and crystallises more quickly – oilseed rape honey is an example of this. High viscosity honey also slows down the rate of crystallisation, as molecules of sugar migrate through the honey more slowly. I would say our honey has a high fructose to glucose ratio, as it shows no signs of granulating yet. The 2011 honey we got never did crystallise.

About heather honey, Ted says “Extracting is a problem because the honey is a jelly and will not spin out of combs in the normal way. The jelly is thixotropic, and thus if it is stirred it becomes a fluid and can be extract normally. A form of stirring can be done in the comb using an implement which looks like a scrubbing brush set with fine steel needles for bristles.”

If we had such an implement, perhaps that would have helped – but it sounds very messy! We would love to get our honey tested to find out where the bees have been. Although it's thick like heather honey, it seems unlikely that the bees have found large quantities of heather in west London. Elder (and younger!) beekeepers, have you ever had such problems extracting?

Time to smite some mites

Article 2!

This weekend it was time to replace our first lot of Apiguard treatment and put the second round of trays on. Can you guess which of our colonies had cleaned every last inch of their Apiguard tray empty and shining after two weeks?



Our new queen Melissa's of course (Melissa being our old favourite Myrtle's daughter). These bees truly are perfection – gentle, productive honey makers, hygienic.

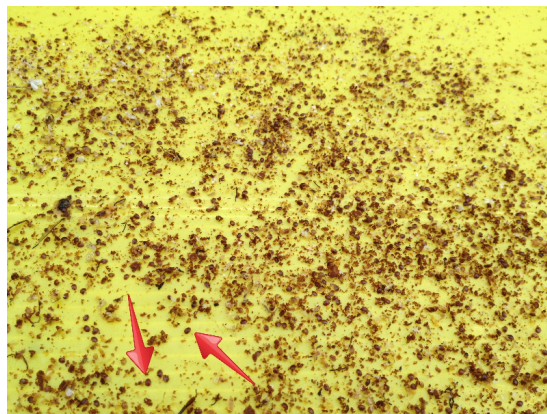


A worrying sight in Chilli's hive – a couple of piles of dead bees. Had they met a sudden end, perhaps in a fight with a wasp or robber bee? We helped their surviving sisters clean up by cremating the dead in our smoker.



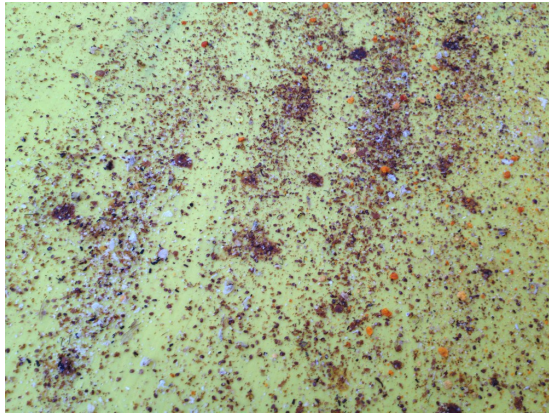
Queen Stella's allotment bees are doing well – above they're enjoying a Nektapoll pollen patty treat. All yellow and squidgy. As soon as I wedge it in-between the bars they start nibbling away at it.

Last week I turned up in time to see one of the workers fly into a big spider's web behind my hive. I felt like it was a beekeeper's job to rescue bees from hungry spiders, so I fished her out before the spider pounced. Further drama ensued as upon putting her on the hive roof I noticed a varroa mite on her thorax! It's pretty difficult trying to dislodge a mite a couple of millimetres long from a moving bee which doesn't want you touching her back. I tried my best and the mite disappeared, but to be honest I think it just hid somewhere else on the bee's body. Still, she had been saved by death by spider!

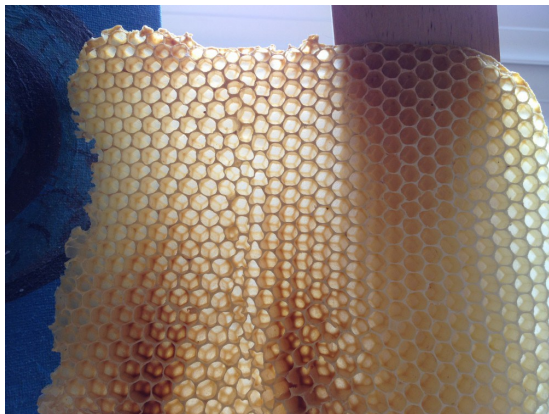


Hopefully the mite is now on that there varroa monitoring board above, knocked out by Apiguard. I have put on some arrows pointing to the mites, which are brown and shiny. Observant eyes at the right angles can spot the ends of their legs pointing out. There are a lot more than two on there, but I didn't fancy doing an arrow for every mite.

And obviously you can never have too many monitoring boards, so here's another! Pretty orange pollen and wax flakes on this one. The lines match up with the gaps between the frames.



I had left some space in the hive and the allotment bees had built some spectacular comb – big, drone cell sized but so far completely empty. I couldn't really let them keep it as it would have created a lot of mess, so I trimmed it off, brought it home and how have it on display in my window.



Magnificent engineering.

LBKA Marketplace

In this section, members offer products and services to other members. If you'd like to add something to this column next month, please email services@lbka.org.uk.

*This is a service to members and does not constitute any recommendation or otherwise by LBKA. **LBKA is not involved in any of these***

transactions and buyers and seller must proceed at their own risk.

Aidan Slingsby: Stoke Newington honey; £6 for half-pound jars; £9 for ¾-pound jars. Email aidan.slingsby@gmail.com for details.

Barnaby Shaw: 10% discount from Thorne (<http://www.thorne.co.uk/>). For more details, email beurbanlondon@gmail.com.

Mark Patterson: Photographic calendar featuring some of our bees' favourite forage sources, month by month. Colour printed as a double A4 wall calendar on high quality glossy paper/card. See sample at monthly meetings and the Honey Show. Order your copy now – an ideal Christmas gift.



Upcoming events

**Friday 26th - Sunday 28th September:
BIBBA 50th Anniversary Conference
2014**

All day at The Pavilion, Llangollen, North Wales.

BIBBA are pleased to announce their 50th Anniversary Conference, in collaboration with SICAMM (Societas Internationalis pro Conservazione Apis Melliferae Melliferae) their European partners. It will be hosted by South Clwyd BKA.

The focus is on bee improvement, bee breeding, queen rearing and the management of native and near native honey bees. Delegates will learn about improving their own stocks of honey bees, whilst enjoying an excellent and varied social programme. For those wishing to extend their visit, the Llangollen area benefits from stunning scenery, a variety of activities and culture to suit all tastes.

See the programme at:
http://www.bibba.com/conference_2014.php

(apiaries' manager; apiaries@lbka.org.uk) and **Mark Patterson** (forage officer; forage@lbka.org.uk). Our website is <http://www.lbka.org.uk/>.

Monday, 6th October: London Honey Show

18:00-21:00 at Lancaster London Hotel, Lancaster Terrace, London, W2 2TY

The London Honey Show is a celebration of bees and beekeeping, with friendly competition between new and experienced beekeepers alike.

The Lancaster London Hotel is organising and hosting this annual event for the fourth consecutive year, with a small £1 entry fee, which will be donated to a bee charity.

Sunday 12th October: Monthly meeting: Honey regulation and tasting

11:00-12:00 at Fairley House Junior School, 220 Lambeth Rd, London SE1 7JY

Information about honey regulation and label printing. Followed by a honey tasting event, for which members are invited to bring some of their honey. Followed by chat with coffee and cake. Members only - non-members who'd like to find out more about LBKA can email us.

Thursday 30th October to Saturday 1st November: National Honey Show

at St George's College, Weybridge, Surrey KT15 2QS.

Promoting the highest quality honey and wax products with international classes, beekeeping lecture convention and workshops. More details at the National Honey Show website.

Committee

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with a member of the committee if you have any questions, requests, suggestions (and offers of help!), but remember that we are all volunteers with busy lives. We are **Karin Courtman** (chair; chair@lbka.org.uk), **Jon Harris** (treasurer; treasurer@lbka.org.uk), **David Hankins** (secretary and membership secretary; admin@lbka.org.uk and membership@lbka.org.uk); **Howard Nichols** (education; education@lbka.org.uk), **Aidan Slingsby** (members' services and web; services@lbka.org.uk and webmaster@lbka.org.uk), **Richard Glassborow**