



The London Beekeepers' Association

LBKA News

March, 2023

Winter seems to be back, but Spring is coming.

It might be hard to imagine now, but swarm season will starting quite soon. In preparation, Geoff will lead this month's Monthly Meeting which will also cover Swarm Control when you cannot find the queen. We also have our final Winter Lecture on **Queen rearing** by David Evans on Monday 20th March via Zoom which you can book [here](#).

Tristram has news of our new Hyde Park Apiary (p5), we have news about a commercial opportunity to members to deliver School Food Matters sessions (p2), don't forgot our pollinator fund plea (p3), and do promote our [beekeeping course](#).

Also this month we have Richard's usual thought-provoking musings (p1), Howard's summary (p5) of what we should be doing in the apiary and Mark's focus on forage (p6).

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Thank you to this month's contributors: **Richard Glassborow, David Hankins, Howard Nichols, Tristram Sutton and Chris Wootten**. Would you like to join these esteemed contributors? If so, contact me. Please help make the newsletter better by providing content – photos, articles, thoughts, reflections, advice, recipes, poetry. . .

Aidan Slingsby, Editor, services@lbka.org.uk

From our Chair

Richard Glassborow
chair@lbka.org.uk

I once saw Snow at the Oval in July!

That might need a bit of explaining to those of you not familiar with South London, not old enough to remember, and or not into cricket. The Oval is of course a famous cricket ground in South London and John Snow was an England cricketer in the 60s and 70s. Get it?

Well, here I am, not far from the Oval, it is March and it is snowing. This is not good news for beekeepers. Those colonies that have made it through winter so far will probably be quite big by now: lots of hungry brood



Spotted by Chris Wootten. "Full load and out when its quite chilly." Photo and caption: Chris Wootten.

needing lots of pollen and the rapidly growing workforce needing lots of nectar to fuel the intense activity that is spring build-up. The weather forecast for the whole of this month predicts low temperatures and significant precipitation. Not good for flying and, even if they do go out, flowers are not able to produce nectar at these low temperatures.

I have been led down this bee anxiety path before but have not forgotten a lesson learned early on in my bee-keeping: honey bees have been around some 35 million years. Imagine the weather they have seen in that time? We underestimate their ability to survive at our peril. When we stay indoors complaining about the cold it can be a mistake to assume the bees are doing the same. That was the mistake I made some 15 years ago. I realised my mistake when my bees swarmed about a week after a long spell of bad weather!

I will leave it at that and segue onto swarming – a seasonal topic of particular importance to us urban beekeepers.

Swarming is a fundamentally natural process but in the urban environment it can be problematic, not so much for the bees (though it is implicated in the spread of disease), but for the public and commercial activities in this city. For these reasons, the LBKA emphasises the importance of swarm prevention and control in our Guidelines to Responsible Beekeeping in London.

And if you think that is not relevant just yet, remember, with bees the unexpected is normal! It may only be early March but we are only a few weeks off the vernal equinox – 12 hours of daylight and increasing rapidly: plenty of time to build up even in bad weather. And the earliest swarm call I can remember from a few years ago was in February!

Please attend our monthly meeting on Sunday – swarm Prevention and Control **and a chance to socialize with other members**, it would be hard to find a more varied, interesting, friendly and helpful bunch.

April's Monthly meeting, Swarm Collection, will break with tradition and be held on the 3rd Sunday of the month (April 16) – to avoid Easter Sunday.

Stay well, have a great year.

Announcements

This is our official place for announcements. If you only read one section of the newsletter, it should be this one!

January's Monthly Meeting and Pub Social

Geoff will lead this month's Monthly Meeting on **Sunday 12th March** at 11:00-13:00 on "Swarm Control" at **The Foundry**, 17 Oval Way, London SE11 5RR. It will also cover Swarm Control when you cannot find the queen. He says "if you haven't had that problem then you must be an exceptionally lucky beekeeper!".

Our Pub Social will be on **28th March** at **Punch & Judy pub** (40 Henrietta St, Covent Garden, WC2E 8RF).

April's Monthly Meeting on **16th April** will be on Swarm Collection, one week later than usual, so as to not clash with Easter.

Winter Lectures

Our final Winter Lectures will be "**Queen rearing**" by David Evans on Monday 20th March via Zoom. [Please book your place.](#)

School Food Matters: paid work for members

This year, we are offering members the chance to bid to deliver LBKA's School Food Matters programmes on a commercial basis.

We have partnered with the charity School Food Matters, (SFM), for several years, delivering education to children in London through the incredible [honey bee programme](#).

This collaboration has been successful in providing both kudos and diversity of income for LBKA, a transformative experience for urban children, and in raising children's awareness of bees and other pollinators. The program is popular with SFM's funders, (Whole Kids Foundation in the USA), as well as with participating schools, and has been rewarding for LBKA members who have volunteered. Feedback from the recent survey of members suggests LBKA should continue with this activity, providing there is the capacity to do so.

However, during 2022 we struggled to recruit enough volunteers with appropriate transport to deliver the program on a volunteer basis. With this capacity shortfall in mind trustees are now **looking to offer interested members an opportunity to undertake some aspects of this program on a commercial basis**. Successful members would be engaged by SFM to act as LBKA delivery operatives, carrying out beekeeper visits to schools on behalf of LBKA via a Frame-



Shed that we're giving away.

work Agreement, but be managed and paid directly by SFM.

Delivery operatives will be expected to hold the BBKA Basic Assessment, to have communication skills appropriate to a wide range of school aged children, to demonstrate their ability to manage an observation hive over a 3-4 month period, and to have access to a vehicle capable to transporting a loaded observation hive and significant additional equipment.

If you are interested in more information on the responsibilities of all parties to this arrangement, please email treasurer@lbka.org.uk.

Monthly meetings

This year's monthly meeting will be as follows. Note that some of them will be special meetings with practical and/or social aspects. Please put them in your diaries! As ever, see [our website for details](#) with upcoming events on our [front page](#), all events on our [events page](#) and in the [members services](#) part of the website.

- Sunday 12th March: Swarm Control
- Sunday 16th April: Swarm Collection
- Sunday 14th May: Bee Health Day – please put in your diaries!
- Sunday 11th June: Improver course – please put in your diaries!
- Sunday 9th July: Feeding bees and Spectacular Summer Social – please put in your diaries!
- Sunday 10th September: Monthly meeting: Winter preparation
- Sunday 8th October: Monthly meeting: Natural History of bees

Storage chest giveaway

We have a [storage chest](#) that is surplus to requirements (due to the vacation of our former Holland Park apiary; p5). It is a year old and in good condition. We are offering it free of charge to members for collection from Holland Park. Please contact services@lbka.org.uk if you're interested.

Pollinator Fund Grants – Update

The recent member's survey indicated strong support from members for LBKA to invest resources in creation of forage & habitat for pollinating insects.

Over the last 3 years LBKA has piloted a grant making scheme to support pollinator-friendly planting, creation of habitat for beneficial insects, and the education of visitors to London's open spaces.

While the Pollinator Fund has been moderately successful, we appear to have exhausted the demand for relatively small grants advertised solely through our membership base. Management of the Fund has been undertaken by a panel of Trustees and co-opted LBKA members, and the experience gained has been valuable. However, we do not feel confident in advertising to a wider public audience or significantly increasing the value of individual grants we offer – we would prefer to partner with another organisation with similar charitable objects and greater experience of grant-making, in the hope that combining resources will deliver significantly greater outcomes without further taxing our limited human resources.

To this end we are asking members to introduce LBKA to organisations, (or people who are influential in organisations), that already have a track record in successful grant making and share at least some of LBKA's charitable objects or aspirations. Such organisations may include:

1. charitable organisations owning land in the Greater London area;
2. national conservation charities with a London branch;
3. organisations making grants for heritage/conservation work undertaken in London;


If you are able to guide us toward any organisation that might prove a suitable partner for LBKA in creating forage & habitat for pollinating insects in London, please contact treasurer@lbka.org.uk Please note: we are NOT requesting ideas about what type of organisation to approach – rather, we'd like introductions to such organisations/individuals who may already also be looking for partnering opportunities.

Further information about LBKA's Pollinator Fund in its current form is available at https://www.lbka.org.uk/pollinator_fund

LBKA beekeeping course

We will be running our "Introduction to Beekeeping course" this year. As last year, it will include four 1-hour theory sessions delivered via Zoom, followed by a 3-hour apiary visit. Theory sessions will be on Tuesday 18th April, Wednesday 19th April, Wednesday 26th April and Thursday 27th April at 19:00-20:30. You can choose from a choice of six practical sessions which are across three of LBKA's apiaries.

It's now on sale to the general public for £150. Please



www.nonnativespecies.org

Produced by Lucy Cornwell, Olaf Booy (NNSS), Gay Marie, Mike Brown (National Bee Unit) with assistance from Colette O'Flynn (National Biodiversity Data Centre Ireland) Stuart Roberts (BWAWS)


Asian Hornet

Alert!

Report sightings of this species to:
alernnonnative@ceh.ac.uk

Species Description

Scientific name: *Vespa velutina*
AKA: Yellow-legged Hornet
Native to: Asia
Habitat: Nests usually high in trees and man made structures, sometimes closer to the ground; hunts honey bees, other insects and also feeds on fruit and flowers.



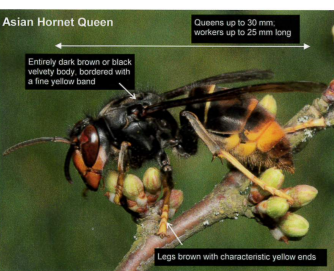
Not easily confused with any other species. Dark brown or black velvety body. Characteristically dark abdomen and yellow tipped legs. Smaller than the native European Hornet.

Introduced to France in 2004 where it has spread rapidly. In 2016 the first UK sighting was confirmed in Gloucestershire. High possibility of introduction through, for example, soil associated with imported plants, cut flowers, fruit, garden items (furniture, plant pots), freight containers, or in/on untreated timber. The possibility that it could fly across the Channel has not been ruled out.

A highly aggressive predator of native insects. Poses a significant threat to honey bees and other pollinators.

Do not disturb an active nest. Members of the public who suspect they have found an Asian Hornet should send a photo to alernnonnative@ceh.ac.uk.

Key ID Features



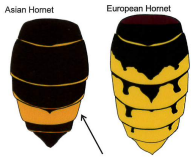
Asian Hornet Queen

Queens up to 30 mm, workers up to 25 mm long

Entirely dark brown or black velvety body, bordered with a fine yellow band


Legs brown with characteristic yellow ends

Photos from: J. Haxaire, Rachel Scopes and Nigel Jones; Richard Ball








Asian Hornet European Hornet

Asian Hornet abdomen is almost entirely dark except for 4th abdominal segment.




Asian hornet 'hawking' for honey bee prey

Similar Species

<p>Asian hornet (<i>Vespa velutina</i>) for comparison</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Queen up to 30mm long, worker up to 25mm long Legs yellow at the ends Dark brown / black abdomen with a yellow / orange band on 4th segment Head dark from above, orange from front Dark coloured antennae Entirely black velvety thorax Never active at night 	 <p style="font-size: 8px;">Q. Rome</p>
<p>European hornet (<i>Vespa crabro</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Queen up to 35mm long, worker up to 30mm long Legs brown at the ends Yellow abdomen marked with brown on the upper part, not banded Head yellow from above, yellow from front Yellow antennae Thorax black with extensive brown markings May be active at night 	 <p style="font-size: 8px;">Roger Burgess National Bee Unit</p>
<p>Giant woodwasp (<i>Urocerus gigas</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Larger than Asian hornet, females up to 45mm long Legs yellow Distinctive yellow and black banded abdomen Long cylindrical body unlike Asian hornet which has an obvious waist Long yellow antennae Female has an obvious long sting-like appendage (ovipositor) which it uses to lay eggs in trees 	 <p style="font-size: 8px;">Q. Rome</p>
<p>Hornet mimic hoverfly (<i>Volucella zonaria</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abdomen has more yellow stripes than Asian hornet Legs darker than Asian hornets Only one pair of wings (hornets and wasps have two pairs) Large, globular eyes 	 <p style="font-size: 8px;">Didier Descouens Alan Morgan</p>
<p>Median wasp (<i>Dolichovespula media</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More extensive yellow and orange colouration on abdominal segments than Asian hornet Yellow markings on thorax unlike Asian hornet 	 <p style="font-size: 8px;">Q. Rome</p>

Field Signs

Active April-November (peak August/September). Mated queens over winter singly or in groups, in various natural and man-made harbours – underneath tree bark in cavities left by beetle larvae, in soil, on ceramic plant pots – potentially any small, well-insulated refuge. Makes very large nests in tall trees in urban and rural areas, but avoids pure stands of conifers. Will use man made structures (garages, sheds etc.) as nesting sites.



For more information visit:
www.nonnativespecies.org
www.nationalbeehiveunit.com

Alert!

Report sightings of this species to:
alernnonnative@ceh.ac.uk

direct anyone who might be interested to [our website](#).

Old announcements from February

Check our [previous newsletters](#) or contact services@lbka.org.uk for more details.

LBKA training for Bee Basic: See last month's newsletter for details of the help we give to those interested in doing BBKA's Bee Basic Assessment exam.

BBKA Training: See last month's newsletter and the [BBKA Web Shop](#) for some BBKA courses.

Do you have any announcements?

If you've any announcements for the next issue of LBKA News, please send to Aidan at services@lbka.org.uk.

March's Committee meeting

Here, we keep you up to date with what the committee discusses at our monthly committee meetings (and what keeps us awake at night). Let us know if you can help or have any suggestions that might help.

Aidan Slingsby
services@lbka.org.uk

This month, we had a hybrid meeting with three of us at Jack Hobbs Club and the rest via Zoom.

In the executive part of the meeting, we discussed details of both the online and practical sessions of the the introductory beekeeping courses. Bee Health Day (14th May, 11:00 at Brockwell), Lambeth Country Show (10-11th June), Improver Beekeeper Day (11th June, perhaps at Brockwell Park) and the Summer social (13th August). Tristram gave an apiaries update, reporting the successful move of bees from our former Holland Park apiary to our new apiary in Hyde Park (p 5).

In the Trustee part of the meeting, we discussed Richard's LBKA Character and Direction paper. This is still work in progress, but we will circulate an edited version to members, produce some leaflets for wider dissemination, and perhaps even a video. We also discussed our engagement with the School Food Matters programme and agreed our approach, which will involve offering members the chance to do paid work to deliver talks to school and organising volunteers to show bees to school children in our apiaries (p 2).

Asian Hornet Identification leaflet. Source: [BBKA website](#).



Our new Hyde Park Apiary. Photo and caption: Tristram Sutton.

Our new Hyde Park Apiary

St Valentine is the patron saint of beekeepers so it was particularly appropriate that it was on 14th February that Eugene, Vane and Tristram moved a couple of the colonies from our former Holland Park apiary to our shiny new apiary in Hyde Park.

Eugene has already installed WBC lifts around the hives and will be calling for volunteers to help look after the bees once the season for regular inspections begins.

The opportunity to start this apiary was particularly opportune as we had to close our apiary at Holland Park. The 2 other colonies from Holland Park are planned to go to the Trinity Hospice Apiary in Clapham and our apiary at Brockwell Park.

Although the Hyde Park apiary may not be large enough for the larger apiary visits such as those from schools and LBKA members as a whole, it is hoped, with the encouragement of our apiary host, to use the apiary in other ways to bring the wonder of a bee colony to a wider human audience, for instance through cameras/heat sensors etc.

If you are interested in joining the Hyde Park group please get in touch with Eugene, its apiary manager.

March in the Apiary

Where we should be with our colonies at this time of year.

Howard Nichols
education@lbka.org.uk

March is a time of increasing activity within the hive but it all depends upon the weather. A colony at the end of March should be substantially different from the one at the beginning. March days can include warmer, sunny days, which encourage plants to flower early, and bees to forage. The weather can just as easily revert back to cold (at the time of writing snow is forecast for London). The former causes the bees to produce more brood and the latter to retreat back to a cluster. It is a fact of beekeeping that more colonies die out in March than in any other month of the year.

The main job of the beekeeper is still to keep an eye on stores. Old "winter" bees are dying off and new bees are being born. Food reserves are decreasing but demand for food is substantially increasing. The bees will be using energy flying on warmer days but mainly bringing in pollen, not nectar. They also need to keep the brood at a higher temperature (about 35°C) which also uses more energy. Stores can quickly be depleted in March and early April. It is a statistical beekeeping fact that more colonies die of starvation in March than at any other month.

The first warm day from the start of March is an opportunity to have a quick look inside the hive. If so, then this will constitute the 1st inspection of the new season. The new colony card should be made up and inspection details recorded. Minimum temperature should be 10°C for a quick look but without taking out brood frames. If there is an exceptionally warm day with the temperature 14°C or more then a detailed colony inspection may be made. Otherwise, leave this until April.

If an inspection is not possible, then observing the colony entrance can provide invaluable information. If the bees are bringing in pollen, purposefully entering and leaving (flying a beeline) then these are good signs. If the bees are aimless, listless or without purpose on a warm day then, *prima facie*, all may not be well.

This is a good time to monitor the mite drop. Leave the inserts in for a week and count the mite drop. If >2 mites per day then some action will be needed in Spring. If >7 mites per day then action is immediately required. It is to be hoped that all our members will have treated for varroa last autumn and/or winter and so will not find themselves with a large mite drop. The National Bee Unit produces an excellent booklet "Managing Varroa" which is available for free download. There is also comprehensive information about varroa

on the NBU website, including an on-line varroa count calculator. www.nationalbeeunit.com

Other matters

Siting your bees. Those who have not yet acquired bees (but will do so) should prepare the hive and site. If acquiring bees by means of the purchase of a nucleus from a supplier then the order should have been placed by now. Demand often exceeds supply.

Formulate a beekeeping plan for the season. This need not be elaborate and may be such as improving swarm control, attempting a new manipulation, disease recognition skills, etc. The opportunities are endless. Whatever plan you formulate may I ask that you specifically address the matter of brood diseases. E.F.B. is currently at a high level in London and it is good beekeeping practice to devote 2 colony inspections per season exclusively to brood disease inspections. A good time is early spring. This is because the bees are overstretched at these times and cannot always efficiently remove the dead larvae. It is even better to do this inspection jointly with another beekeeper as two pairs of eyes are better than one, although this may not be possible due to Covid social interaction restrictions at the present time..

Dead bees? If you find your bees are dead then it is imperative to close the entrance to prevent robbing. Make a note of what you observe then remove and destroy dead bees and frames. Sterilise the other hive parts. It is important to try to find out why the bees have died. Winter and early spring colony losses seem to average 20% to 30% so you are not alone. It does not always mean it's the beekeeper's fault but it is essential to analyse and learn. Examples of reasons include, but are not limited to, the varroa mite (the number 1 offender), lack of stores, damp/inadequate hive ventilation, site situated in a frost pocket, failing queen or poorly mated queen, too small a colony going into winter. The list goes on.

Focus on Forage

Mark tells us what's in flower at this time of year. This article is reprinted from last year.

Mark Patterson
forage@lbka.org.uk

March is officially the first month of spring for us in the UK, but it's pretty wet and cold recently. The first of the spring flowers are already putting on a colourful show of yellows, purples and shades of white. **Snowdrops** are starting to pass their best, having flowered in large numbers since late January. The early flowering **crocus** species are currently looking at their best across most of London. The later flowering large flowered cro-



Primrose.



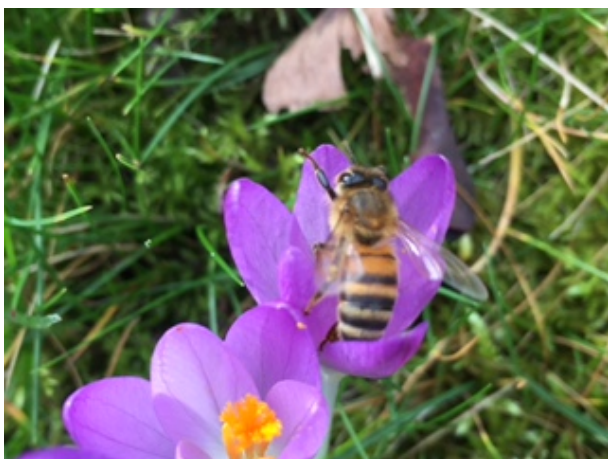
Winter aconite.



Wild damson.



Buff tailed queen on crocus.

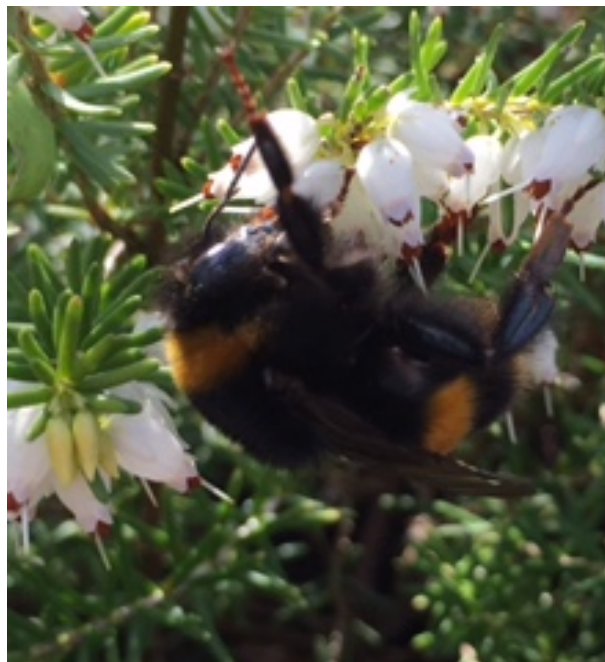


Honey bee on crocus.

cus varieties are just starting to join the display too. These and other spring bulbous plants include **Winter Aconite**, **Anemone blanda**, **Squill** and **Muscari**. These are valuable early sources of pollen for bees.

Garden plants important to bees this month include the **Hellebores** (the hybrid Hellebores in my garden are particularly popular with bees at the moment), **Pulmonaria** and **Wallflowers**. Both the biennial bedding wallflowers and short lived perennial varieties are attractive to bees, but it's the Everlasting Wallflower *Bowles Mauve* that is flowering best at present; the others will put on a fantastic show towards the end of March and into April.

Several Spring flowering trees are important to bees and these include **White Poplar**, **Willow**, and **Hazel**. The large Hazel tree in my apiary has been flowering since January but is at its peak now. The willow and **white beam** catkins are just starting to open. One of the best small willows for gardens is **Salix caprea Kilmarnock** which is a pussy willow type with large fluffy catkins which become covered in bright lemon yellow pollen. All manner of bees adore it. Last spring whilst cycling through Archbishops Park *en route* to the LBKA monthly meeting, I passed a trio of these dwarf weeping trees which were covered in **honey bees**, **Ashy Mining**



Buff tailed queen on winter heather.

bees, **Painted Mining bees** and several **bumblebees**. These trees all have pollen with a high protein and fatty acids content valuable to bees rearing brood and for queens fattening up ready to begin laying.

Shrubs flowering this month attractive to bees include **flowering currant**, **Sarcococca**, **blackthorn**, **flowering quince** and **camelia**. At last month's RHS early Spring Flower Show I bought 2 new camelias for my garden, a light pink one and a dark pinkie red one called "Adeyaka". Both are open single flowered varieties which flower from Late February through to Early May and are "self cleaning" varieties which mean the blooms drop as soon as they are pollinated, or if the blooms become frosted resulting in a neat looking shrub without the tainted frost damaged petals which can look unsightly.

Other flowers making an appearance include **lesser celandine**, **sweet violet**, **cowslip**, **primrose**, **white deadnettle**, **bugle**, **ground ivy** and the first of the **Spanish bluebells** (*Hyacinthoides Hispanica*) whose blue-green pollen Honey bees will collect. white deadnettle in particular is a valuable wild plant for bumble bees and some of the longer-tongued solitary bees. Its pollen is rich in protein and fats.

Jobs in the garden

This time of year presents us with the last opportunity to lift and divide herbaceous perennials before they start to put on significant growth. I've just lifted and split my **Helleniums**, **hardy geraniums**, **Japanese anemones** and **sedum spectable**.

Plant out herbaceous perennials that were grown from seed or cuttings last year. Get them in the ground now so they have time to spread out their roots ahead of the coming growing season. Less hardy plants may still

require protection with fleece. Have fleece available to protect the blooms of soft fruits. My **peach** and **nectarine** buds are starting to open – will I get any fruit this year?

Early March is the last opportunity to prune apples and pears. Stone fruits such as peach, plum and apricot should be pruned in late summer. When pruning apples and pear resist the urge to cut back too much growth which the trees respond to by putting on excess vigorous regrowth. Unlike plum and other stone fruits which flower on the previous year's wood, Pip fruits require 2 year old material to develop flower/fruit buds.

Upcoming events

See our [website](#) for an up-to-date version

Sunday 13th March: Monthly meeting: Swarm control

11:00-13:00 at The Foundry, 17 Oval Way, London SE11 5RR

Swarm collection, led by Geoff. Meetings are for members only, but you're welcome to come as a guest to find out more about our association.

Monday 20th March: Winter Lecture: Queen Rearing by David Evans

18:30 at Via Zoom - [book your free ticket here](#).

Queen rearing gives both tremendous satisfaction and independence to beekeepers. Loss of a swarm or a queen, or the need to make increase are easily solved if you rear your own queens. Beekeepers can easily rear queens of comparable quality to most commercially raised queens with a little effort. This talk is aimed at beekeepers with a year or two of experience who are interested in rearing a small number of queens each year. It is a gentle introduction to the subject and describes an effective and economical approach that employs methods that can be readily scaled as needs and experience increase. The talk covers the importance of the quality of the starting material - the larvae and drones - and the necessity for good record keeping. It moves on to cover the practicalities of grafting larvae (much easier than most beekeepers realise), cell raising and getting queens mated from nucleus colonies. The talk does not try and cover the myriad of different queen rearing strategies, but instead focuses on methods achievable by beekeepers with as few as 1-3 colonies and limited additional specialist equipment. At the end of the talk there will be a brief overview of teaching practical queen rearing in a beekeeping association - using the same methods, but distributing grafted larvae for cell raising and queen mating. Book your free ticket here.

Tuesday 28th March: Pub social

18:30-22:30 at Punch & Judy, 40 Henrietta St, Covent Garden, WC2E 8RF.

Our monthly trip to the pub will be at the Punch & Judy pub (40 Henrietta St, Covent Garden, WC2E 8RF), a food-serving food with good beer.

Sunday 16th April: Monthly meeting: Swarm Collection

11:00-13:00 at The Foundry, 17 Oval Way, London SE11 5RR

Swarm collection. Meetings are for members only, but you're welcome to come as a guest to find out more about our association.

Committee

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with a member of the committee if you have any questions, requests, suggestions. We are:

- **Chair:** Richard Glassborow, chair@lbka.org.uk
- **Treasurer:** David Hankins, treasurer@lbka.org.uk
- **Secretary:** Simon Saville, admin@lbka.org.uk
- **Education:** Howard Nichols education@lbka.org.uk
- **Membership:** Aidan Slingsby, services@lbka.org.uk
- **Events:** Annie McGeoch, events@lbka.org.uk
- **Apiaries:** Tristram Sutton, apiaries@lbka.org.uk
- **Mentoring:** Elliot Hodges, mentor@lbka.org.uk
- **Resources:** Will Fry, resources@lbka.org.uk
- Stuart Kennon, stuart.kennon@lbka.org.uk

Our website is <http://www.lbka.org.uk/> and the pictures are in the same order as the names above.

