



BURTON and District BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

Updates from Sam

AGM

I've rebooked Henhurst Hill and we will now hold the AGM at 7.30 pm on 26th July.

At our last meeting the committee decided we'd resume Monthly meetings from 16th August, and Henhurst has therefore been booked for every third Monday of the month starting on that date. The first meeting will be a general get-together without a speaker. We'll let you know in due course what the programme after that will comprise.

BBKA Magazine Archive

Some of you may be aware that the BBKA News Archive website was unavailable earlier this year whilst it was undergoing repairs and updates. BBKA have confirmed that the Archive is now fully operational again. You can log in and download using your BBKA membership number, your post code and the generic password printed on page 1 of BBKA News.

Copies of archived magazines can be downloaded in .pdf format.

As part of a reciprocal agreement, you can also access archived



An unmown verge where white clover thrives to provide nectar for pollinators

copies of *An Beachaire*, the newsletter from the Federation of Irish Beekeepers Associations (FIBKA).

Clover

I took the photo on this page on a walk recently. If you like, it's as clear a statement as you can make in one picture that mowing verges may make the roads look neat and tidy but it does nothing for the environment, actually the reverse. Alternatively, it shows what you might be able to do for the environment by not mowing the lawn. §

Home-made long-hive

Malcolm Whiteland

Very shortly I am to have an operation to replace my elbow – arthritis to blame! This means that I'll find it difficult to reach and lift stacked hive boxes in future. There was a possibility that I'd have to give up beekeeping – and that's a no no!

So – I explored other options and discovered the long hive at B&DBKA. After doing an online search I realised that this will solve the lifting problem. But the cost of ready-made hives is prohibitive, so I took photos and measurements and decided to make my own!

I love working with wood anyway – as my shed full of shavings will testify. Basically, it is three brood boxes in line horizontally with queen excluder placed after brood frames and then more standard DN4 brood frames for stores (honey).

I set to and in a week made a reasonable 'long hive' with a height to suit me. It has an open mesh floor and removable varroa boards and cost approximately 25% of a bought one. Two single brood colonies can be run in the same hive (entrance at each end) with a dummy board placed between.

I transferred a large double brood colony into the long hive by placing all frames that contained eggs into one end of the hive (16 frames) and then placed the queen excluder then 12 frames containing stores, some already sealed that took up three-quarters of the hive. There was plenty of room for expansion, horizontally not vertically.



The long-hive with the roof closed



The long-hive with the roof open



The clear crownboard showing thriving bees

In the future I will remove sealed frames of honey, extract and replace. Swarm management should be no different from normal as it will be the usual weekly inspections. I usually treat varroa by vaporising oxalic acid crystals and I can still use this method.

The hive has advantages and disadvantages but hopefully it will produce enough honey for me and my family! In brief – less space less equipment, less backache! Long live our bees! §

Items available to buy from the association shop:

HIVE PARTS:	
NATIONAL SUPER FLAT PACK	£19.50
NATIONAL BROOD FLAT PACK	£24
14 X 12 BROOD FLAT PACK	£35
4" ROOF FLAT PACK	£36
CROWN BOARD	£13.50
FRAMED WIRE QUEEN EXCLUDER	£18
MESH FLOOR	£32
BUDGET OPEN MESH FLOOR	£16
SLOPING HIVE STAND	£27
PLASTIC NARROW ENDS	£6.50
NUCLEUS HIVE	£82.85
FLAT PACK HIVE, STAND & ONE SUPER	£235
10 SPACE CASTELLATIONS (PAIR)	£3.44
11 SPACE CASTELLATIONS (PAIR)	£3.44
STEEL FRAME RUNNERS – PAIR	£1.60

FRAMES & WAX:

SN4 SUPER FRAMES 10 PACK	£10
SN4 SUPER FRAMES 50 PACK	£33.00
DN4 BROOD FRAMES 10 PACK	£10.00
DN4 BROOD FRAMES 50 PACK	£33.00
14 X 12 BROOD FRAMES 10 PACK	£16.24
SUPER WAX FOUNDATION 10 PACK	£8.00
BROOD WAX FOUNDATION 10 PACK	£11.50
14 X 12 BROOD WAX 10 PACK	£18.00
NATIONAL DUMMY BOARD (PLASTIC)	£7.50
NATIONAL DUMMY BOARD (WOOD)	£7.00

QUEEN MARKING:

CROWN OF THORNS	£6.00
QUEEN CLIP	£4.50
MARKER PENS - ASSORTED COLOURS	£5.00
BEE BRUSH	£4.00

FEEDERS & FEEDING:

ENGLISH FEEDER	£9.50
RAPID FEEDER	£4.50
NUC FEEDER	£6

SMALL MILLER TYPE FEEDER	£1.00
FEEDER EKE	£7.00

HONEY & WAX EXTRACTING:

STAINLESS STEEL DOUBLE STRAINER	£21.00
STRAINING CLOTH	£3.50
30 LB PLASTIC BUCKET	£3.50
BAIN MARIE	£14
NYLON HONEY BUCKET VALVE	£8.50
30LB PLASTIC TAP BUCKET	£15.00

GENERAL BEEKEEPING:

SMOKER	£35.80
HIVE STRAPS	£6.50
HIVE TOOL	£7.00
PIN HAMMER	£3.50
BEE DISEASE ID CHARTS	£6.00
FRAME NAILS 500G	£2.88
POLLEN ID CHARTS	£6.00

Shop Update

If you would like to purchase equipment, please contact Dave to request that the shop be open and check if the items you seek are in stock. Please bring your own buckets if you would like to buy sugar. Please note prices are subject to change according to availability issues.

Dave's email : dave.coates32@gmail.com

Phone number : 07721 646274

The address is:

Hillfield Animal Shelter.

Hillfield Lane.

Stretton.

Staffordshire.

DE13 0BN

Who's Who

<i>vacancy</i> Sam Hampton (temporary)	<i>Club Secretary</i> Membership Secretary	<i>sam.hampton@btinternet.com</i>	
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David Coates	Chair	<i>dave.coates32@gmail.com</i>	01283 713603
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Sam Hampton	Treasurer	<i>sam.hampton@btinternet.com</i>	
Sue Coates	Librarian	<i>susan_coates@talktalk.net</i>	
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Trustees	Bob Hurd David Coates S Hampton F Oldfield S King H Low R Matkin C Ambler	Volunteers	C Ring P Yates R Wykes R Harrison I McMillen