

COMBINGS

THE MAGAZINE OF THE YORK AND DISTRICT BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION.

NUMBER 32. DECEMBER 2009.

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QUESTION. What is a Morris Board.

ASSOCIATION NEWS.

Starting on a sad note. Terry Cooper a Member of York BKA since the eighties, died at the end of August aged 76.

He was a man of many talents – not only did he keep bees -he was in the Fleet Air Arm for eleven years before joining the Fire Service in York for the rest of his working days.

He was interested in history and a founder member of the Sealed Knot Society. He was also interested in archaeology – and with his wife Maureen worked on some major digs in York.

John Bowes, Alan Johnston, Bill Scriven and Kate Wallace attended his funeral



Our Annual General meeting was held at Murton on the evening of Wednesday 21st October.

Chairman David Gray welcomed David Rees of the Co-operative Society and Don Atkinson who may become our new Seasonal Bee Inspector. Alan Johnston – our present Seasonal Bee Inspector is retiring from the post. He was thanked from the Chair for his diligence dealing with the out breaks of EFB in our area.

Ian Kibble was re-elected as President of York Beekeepers and then Chaired the meeting.

David Gray, Chris Robinson and Tom Robinson either individually or collectively have attended meetings with Murton management for a period of time. As a result, relations between York Beekeepers and Murton Museum are very good.

In the past we have made a donation to the Museum for use of there facilities. That has change and we now pay them £25.00 every time we use their hall. Discussions are still taking place over insurance on the bee pavilion.

While on the topic of our pavilion – Rob Coleman has made double doors that are to be fitted on the opposite wall to the present door. This will give better access to the pavilion for the public. Rob has also remover some cupboards in the vicinity of the new doors to further improve access.

Sue Hesp and Jenny Smith have re arranged the exhibits within the pavilion.

The garden at the pavilion is being completely re organised by Nigel Davies and his wife Fiona. Materials and plants for this project are being supplied by Deans Garden Centre.

Our Constitution is to be amended to satisfy the Charities Commission. Clause 10 is to be removed and clause 11 to be renumbered 10.

We heard reports from our Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer.

Election of Officers. Secretary Tom Robinson was re elected, but told us that he wishes to relinquish the post in the near future. David Bough offered to take on the job and will shadow Tom for a while before taking over.

Treasurer Chris Robinson was also re elected. He too wishes to relinquish his post. He is looking to stand down at the end of York BKA's financial year at the end of June. No body came forward to take on the job – if you are interested, then contact Chris on 01 653 619 020.

Next the Committee was elected after Alan Johnston and Kate Wallace said they would not stand for re election. They are: - Matt Atkinson, David Bough, Nigel Davies, David Gray, Sue Hesp, Julia Mander, Hugh McPherson and Jenny Smith.

Other points mentioned:-

David Bough is setting up an apiary with a view to producing nuclei, in part to supply the beginners class with bees. With the large numbers of prospective beekeepers every year, supplying them with bees has become a problem.

Volunteer working parties will be wanted during the season to keep Murton tidy.

The Farming Museum is setting up a display in their entrance foyer. If you have any beekeeping artefacts that you are willing to donate, then have a word with David Gray.

Breaking with tradition we had speaker at the AGM. He was David Rees from the Co-operative movement.

We always associate the Co op with corner shops and divi's. David told us that the Co-op is the largest farmer in the UK. In the past they concentrated on arable farming, but are now going into vegetable, soft and top fruit growing.

The movement is also putting £150,000 into research into beekeeping problems. They have also banned the use of neonicotinoids that are so controversial at the moment.

They are also seeking beekeepers to put bees on their land – this is a good opportunity for those of you looking for out apiaries to get set up. You will have to do some research to find out where Co-op land is, but no doubt the internet will help. 🐝

EFB was found at North Duffield at the end of August, to be added to the outbreaks in York and Eggborough in our area.

Keep a close watch on your bees – EFB is becoming more prevalent of late. The cost of the loss of bees and equipment is high.

You can help your self by changing frames frequently and taking brood boxes out of circulation – cleaning off accumulated wax and propolis and scorching them with a blow lamp.

You can cut the wax out of frames and render it down, then dip the frames in a boiling solution of caustic soda which removes any traces of wax and propolis bring your frames up as good as new. It is a time consuming process, and, if the frames are old is not worth the effort or the cost. 🐝

While on the topic of caustic soda I was in York recently in Barnitt's. I purchased a 500 gram packet of caustic soda for £2.78. A few days later I was in a DIY shop in Goole and saw exactly the same product for £1.75 ! 🐝

A big "thank you" must go to Bill Scriven, who almost since its inception has printed "Combings" for us. Unfortunately for us Bill is no longer able to do so. 🐝

Margaret Langstaff was the only Member who took the BBKA Basic Assessment this year. I am pleased to tell you that she passed. Well done.

This brings to 15 the number of Members that have obtained their Basic Certificate using the coaching given by David Aston and myself.

If you wish to improve your beekeeping knowledge – either in theory or practice you must have your Basic Certificate to go any further.

The best way for you to find what options you have is to visit the BBKA web site :- www.britishbee.org.uk . User name [221buzz](#), password [1874am](#).

This information can also be found on your BBKA Membership Card.

If you do not have internet facilities, then give me a ring and I will get them for you. 🐝

The new committee met on 11th November and David Gray accepted the second year as the Associations Chairman and Sue Hesp as Vice Chair.

The Committee consists of Matt Atkinson, David Bough, Nigel Davies, Jenny Smith and two new members, Julia Manders and Hugh Macpherson.

Nigel Davies is the Membership Secretary,

Chris Robinson being Treasurer and

Tom Robinson fills the role of Secretary.

There was discussion on the insurance of the contents of the Bee Pavilion at Murton.

As the number of potential Beekeepers continues to grow, it was decided to hold a special meeting on how best to look towards helping them.

The 2010 programme occupied some time and the Secretary is still trying to finalise it, after which it is to be printed for circulation. 🐝

Members are reminded that their subscriptions to York BKA are now due, and have until the 31st December to pay. So please contact our Membership Secretary, Nigel Davies on 01 904 468 001, as soon as possible. After that date your membership will lapse. 🐝

This a copy of an e.mail from Nigel Davies, sent to me on the 18th November. Those of you that attended our AGM in October will remember David Rees – he spoke to us on the Co-op's "Plan Bee" campaign.

Tom Robinson was contacted by David Rees, a member of the Co-operative North Yorkshire Area Committee, and had asked for proposals to be put to the committee in relation to their national Plan Bee campaign.

<http://www.co-operative.coop/ethicsinaction/takeaction/planbee/>

Tom Robinson, David Gray and I put together 5 proposals which we thought would be acceptable to the Co-operative North Yorkshire Area Committee. Here is a summary of these proposals.

Purchase of 2 bee keeping suits for children to use. This would supplement the adult sized suits for beginners and people wishing to get hands on experience of bee keeping. (£150)

TV with built in DVD player.

For use at the entrance foyer to the Yorkshire Museum of Farming.

It would be used to show bee keeping DVD's on a continuous loop during the day during opening hours.

The equipment would also be used during the beginner's bee keeping courses, again to show DVD's on different aspects of bee keeping. (£300)

Purchase of a virtual Bee Hive. This is an actual bee hive where the wax combs and bees are replaced with photographs of frames which will show the composition of a bee hive. This allows the young and disabled to see the inside of a bee hive without the risk of being stung.

It also allows people learning bee keeping to be able to practice bee keeping during the winter months when bee hives cannot be opened as this would be likely to cause serious harm to the bees in cold weather. (£225)

Observation Hives & Bee Keeping equipment. An area in the entrance foyer to the Yorkshire Museum of Farming at Murton, York has been set aside for displaying bees and bee keeping equipment. Two observation hives would be purchased which would allow one to be on permanent display with a colony of live bees within.

This would be accompanied by a photo montage and display boards giving information on bees and bee keeping. Together with examples of bee keeping equipment from the past up to modern equipment. Members of York District Bee Keepers would contribute equipment from the past. (£950)

Purchase of the components to erect a windbreak mesh screen 3 meters high between bee hives at the teaching apiary, and areas where the public have access, to view hives and bee keepers at work.

This would be constructed at the Bee Keeping Pavilion, Yorkshire Museum of Farming, Murton, York. The screen would be approximately 30 meters long.

It would allow children, disabled persons and any members of the public visiting the museum to view bee hives in relative safety. The hives would be opened to demonstrate the workings of a hive on week ends during July and August when members of York District Bee Keepers staff the pavilion and provide information and demonstrations.

The screen would provide a barrier to bees, which are easily seen through. Presently no similar screen is available and demonstrations with live bees can't take place. (£400)

All of the proposals were put before the Co-operative North Yorkshire Area Committee by David Rees and they agreed to fund all five projects submitted.

Editors note: - I think Messrs Davies, Gray and Robinson deserve a pat on the back for their efforts. They have obtained £2025 of funding for the Association, thanks to the generosity of the Co-op movement. 🐝

Enclosed with "Combings" is your Winter Programme, and Yorkshire BKA's annual foundation offer. The foundation in the past has been Thorne's and is always well below their catalogue price.

Your completed form should be sent to Alan Johnston as soon as possible.

Tom Robinson has arranged for our Annual Dinner to be held at the White Swan a few miles south of York on the A19 on the evening of Friday 26th March.

I patronise the White Swan from time to time and always get a good meal there. 🐝

Here is organiser Nigel Davies account of our Honey Show held at Murton on the evening of Wednesday 18th November.

There were 85 exhibits from 17 exhibitors. Most of whom were successful in gaining an award from our judge, Ivor Flatman, who kindly applied his considerable judging skills.

The show was administered by myself together with the invaluable assistance of Kate Wallace and June Meredith.

Exhibitors were asked to declare which class they wished their exhibits to be judged in, and a few were assisted in making this decision by the weighing and measuring wax and candles, and the use of colour grading glasses to decide whether their honey was light, medium or dark.

During the judging process, it became apparent that a few of the exhibitors had

chosen the wrong category. Heather honey in the dark honey category instead of in the heather class, and several cases where the naturally set and soft set categories seemed to cause some confusion. Perhaps we could ask one of our experienced exhibitors to give a few words of guidance at one of the meetings during the coming year.

There were a few regular exhibitors who were not able to exhibit this year because of personal or domestic reasons, but hopefully they will be back next year.

During the judging it became apparent that one person was building up a formidable score. At the end of the judging, this person had taken the time and effort to enter many of the categories and had exhibited very fine exhibits and it will come as no surprise to learn that this was Alan Johnston.

Perhaps next year some of those who usually exhibit but could not this year will take up the challenge and give him some competition.

Two of our new members this year, Gordon Griffin and his wife Doreen had a go and came away with two awards. Well done.

A table showing the results for each class will be sent on another e-mail.

While judging was taking place Matt Atkinson kept the rest of us entertained with a quiz. Margartet Langstaff was presented with her certificate for passing the Basic Exam. 

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EDITORS MUSINGS.

I was told of a swarm that issued on the 13th September. This is the latest that I have experienced.

It was from a colony of a new beekeeper who was having problems keeping queens. The one that came with the colony was found crawling on the ground – put back into the hive and was superseded. That queen started laying well, but something happened to her and emergency queen cells where built. As all the emergency queen cells where sealed when I saw it, I was not prepared to open them to see what was in side, so left them all.

I think it was one of these emergency queen cells that that provided the virgin queen for the swarm.

A small swarm such as this will not be strong enough to build up sufficiently to survive the winter. That leaves one alternative – unite it back to the hive it came from.



Every year a colleague and I purchase ten queens to get new blood into our bees (buying ten between us, we get them at a reduced rate).

This year was bad as only eight out of the ten where accepted. Interestingly – one of the queens was alive and well in her cage eighteen days after being introduced.

The tab at the candy end of her cage had been broken off and four layers of news paper fastened over to delay the queens release. The newspaper had been chewed through and the bees had almost tunnelled through the candy. A worker had died in the tunnel blocking it off. All the worker bees in the cage had died but the queen was running about fit and well and was accepted straight away by the colony and despite her long captivity, started laying, 

This autumn had above average temperatures until the end of October. Bees where flying freely for a few hours every day, but bringing little - if any thing back to the hive.

This means that colonies that you had fed well in September could now be on the light side. Keep a close watch on them and feed if you are not happy.

At his time of the year do not feed sugar syrup – it is too watery. Use either honey or fondant placed as close to the cluster as possible. 

In Septembers "Combings" I put a plea on behalf of a student at Leeds University doing research on feral bees and asking if any one knew of the whereabouts of any feral bees. John Gilleard of Adlingfleet answered my call and I passed his name to the student.

Neither of us has heard anything since. 

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Tom Robinson has sent me three e-mails recently. The first is regarding Yorkshire BKA's plans to put on a queen rearing course. I understand that the venue is to be Yorkshire BKA's complex at Harrogate.

Queen rearing course

If there is sufficient interest the association proposes to organise a queen rearing course run by Clive de Bruyn at a site in Yorkshire. The course would be run over the second weekend in June 2010, for 20 to 25 people at an estimated cost to members of £45. Clive will demonstrate the methods he finds successful but is keen that beekeepers learn the basics and go on to use the methods and equipment that best suits them.

At this stage we are seeking expression of interest in the course so as to determine its viability.

Please circulate this to your members with a request that they advise me of their expression of interest by 4 November.

Brian Latham. YBKA General Secretary, 111 Woodland Road, Leeds. LS15 7DN. 

Tom's second e.mail is regarding two books published by the International Bee Research Association. They are:-

Skeps, Tools and Accessories - IBRA Historical Collection, Part 11. Produced and published by IBRA in Cardiff 2009, 36 pages, soft back, £5.00 plus postage and packing.

Skeps and skep making are an incredibly important part of beekeeping history and tradition so this little book is both fascinating and informative. It is intended to give the reader a brief history of skeps, to look at how they were made, used and modified before the wooden hive made them redundant and little more than a collector's toy, an historical curiosity. There is also a brief insight into how the skep has become a symbol not just of beekeeping but also of the hard work and the industriousness exemplified by the bees.

Anatomy and Dissection of the Honeybee by H A Dade, published by IBRA, Cardiff as a revised edition 2009. £27.50 plus postage and packing.

For 47 years, since it was first published in 1962, this book has been the standard textbook for the dissection of honeybees. It underwent a gestation period of over ten years but emerged the better for it and has now run to three reprints and this revised edition.

It is a clear and practical guide to both the anatomy and dissection of the honey bee making the subject totally understandable even to those who have not had any formal training in such work. It is divided into three sections: the first part gives a detailed and logical description of the honeybee's anatomy; the second is a guide to dissection of all castes, while the third has 20 illustrated plates making the directions easy to follow.

Copies can be obtained by:

Writing: IBRA Bookshop, 16 North Road, Cardiff, CF10 3DY

Visiting: www.ibrastore.org.uk or telephoning: 02 920 372 409.

Editors note :- Dade is a must if you have any interest in the ways that a bee works. There are detailed drawings of all the major organs. Later on, if you become interested in microscopy, Dade gives you chapter and verse on how to do things. 

Tom's third e.mail reads

At a meeting of the Bee Farmers Association in York on Sunday 25 October 09 the following notes may be of interest to York BKA.

The use of Paradichlorobenzene (moth crystals) is strictly forbidden as they are an acaricide and can be traced in honey in parts per million.

One beekeeper was threatened with court action as it was found in his honey and he was told to recall all the honey of the same batches wherever they were.

Editors note :- PDB crystals were in common use up quite recently as a treatment against wax moth in stored combs. It is very pungent, but worked well. Neither Thorne's or National Bee Supplies have it listed in their catalogues, but I understand it is still available – but don't be tempted to get any. Alternative treatments are Certan which is diluted with water and sprayed onto comb faces, or burning sulphur dioxide strips in a special container over a stack on supers. 

PIPING AND QUACKING.

I mentioned in a previous "Combing" under the heading "Words for your beekeeping vocabulary" about quacking – I was unfamiliar with the word at that time. I have since come across it again – and again in Yates and Yates green volume on page 283 under the heading "Methods of communication used by the honey bee including food sharing dancing and scenting"

They say:-“Perhaps the best known of all sounds. Young queens still in their cells “quack” before the exit of a swarm – frequency c. 1000 Hz, rate 3 per second lasting for 4 to 5 seconds. Thought, but not proven, to be a message that the colony will be left with a viable virgin after the swarm departs.

The other form is piping produced by virgins after emergence – frequency 1200Hz starts with a long burst of about 1 second followed by a number of shorter bursts of 0.3 to 0.4 seconds separated by 0.2 seconds.

Piping is thought to be a challenge to fight.

The beekeepers hearing has to be quite acute to hear piping and quacking as these sounds are at a higher level than others produced by bees.

For those that have never heard them, the time signal pips from the BBC have a frequency of 1000Hz.” 

SWARMS IN UNUSUAL PLACES!

Early in September I was asked by a neighbour to look at some bees that had taken residence under a tarpaulin covering a ride on lawn mower. She had seen this “black cloud of bees” and ran for cover, to discover later where they were.

The mower was in need of some maintenance, so had been covered over with a tarpaulin twelve months ago. There was a hole in the tarpaulin about two inches in diameter where a lever on the steering column had chafed through and they had found shelter through that hole.

There were only five combs, with the centre three with brood, attached to the underside of the tarpaulin. I decided to cut the combs away and tie them into shallow frames and take them home. This I did and a couple of days later knocked the bees in front of one of my colonies.

The swarm was too small to survive the winter where it was under the tarpaulin, even putting it into a shallow box would not make a lot of difference – it just was not big enough. Really, it was doomed when it left the parent colony

I have mentioned in the past how bees find the most obscure places to set up home – this is another one of those instances. 

WASPS have been a problem again this year. Kate Wallace sent me note saying how badly she had been affected and enclosed a news letter from her brother who lives in Melbourne, Australia, where they are experiencing problems with wasps.

After being introduced into Australia only 50 years ago they have become a serious problem. No doubt they were introduced for a good reason.

European wasps, *Vespula germanica*, were introduced to Tasmania in 1959 and found their way to Melbourne in 1977 where they have become a serious pest. Wasps aggressively defend their nest, swarming out to attack if disturbed. Their sting is painful and multiple stings can be dangerous. Unlike bees, the stinger does not detach and wasps can sting multiple times.

European wasps are also an environmental pest, posing a threat to native insects and spiders. European Wasps form large communal nests in spring, normally only visible as a small entrance hole. They are built either underground or in cavities in walls, ceilings, logs or trees.

Worker wasps leave the nest in search of food, and are attracted to meats, sweet food and drink often sipping nectar from flowers. However, bees feed their young with pollen collected from flowers while wasps feed their young on insect and spider prey or bits of meat from carrion or pet food bowls. So if you see an insect collecting pollen from a flower, it is a bee, not a wasp. You might say wasps are carnivorous while bees are vegetarian! Workers are 12-15 mm long (about honeybee size)

If you notice a European wasp nest, then report it to your Council. Destruction of nests should be done by someone qualified. 

The “Beehaus”.

Just after your June edition of “Combings” came out, there was quite a hoo ha in the press about a new plastic hive that had just been introduced to the market called “Beehaus – the brilliant new beehive from Omlet” (www.omlet.co.uk).

Andy Dykes sent me an e.mail about it with links that I followed up. Some thing that beekeepers have never had to concern themselves before – choosing the colour of their hives. (The most difficult part is choosing your colour, says Omlet). These new hives come in five colours – white, red, purple, yellow and green.

On looking closer at the photographs, the new Beehaus is a plastic variation of the Dartington long deep hive, which runs on 21 14 × 12 frames. There are many features of the Dartington that I like and are practical. The down side was the complexity of its construction and its size made it difficult to move (it was always a two man job).

There is a lot of interest in beekeeping at the moment and I think the Beehaus is aimed at those who think that you can put a hive in your garden – your bees will pollinate trees and flowers - all very good for the environment. Your reward will come as honey out of a tap at the end !

If any of you have a Beehaus, I would be interested to have a look at it.

Finally. David Gray Sent me a picture card of bees on apple blossom – but a computer buff had coloured the abdominal segments in red, green , blue and orange. Not only can you select the colour of your hive, but also the colour of the bee to match ! 

PAST EVENTS.

Wednesday 16th September.

This was the first of our winter meetings and was well attended to listen to David Aston speak on "Preparations for Winter". Our President Ian Kibble attended the meeting.

David touched on many topics – uniting weak colonies – if you still have drones in a colony, they are uncertain that they have a queen – if your bees are on mesh floors, then put an empty super underneath to provide a dead air space that will help keep them warmer – using mesh floors also allows debris to fall through making for a cleaner hive – mouse guards knock pollen off bees legs and make it more difficult to remove dead bees from the hive.

David reckons you need 25 kilos of stores to over winter – feed them honey if you can spare it as it is far more nutritious than sugar – when feeding do not stop food about as it encourages robbing by bees and wasps – have clean water near by for bees to collect to dilute honey and liquefy set honey.

Treatment for nosema is still available to beekeepers, after Thorne's said they would no longer stock it.

On varroa treatment he said that Apiguard was not a one shot treatment and other treatments should be used – oxalic acid is one of the current favourites, even though it is not an authorised treatment. Take your honey crop off before using it.

Wednesday 21st October.

There was a good turn out for our Annual General meeting that was held at Murton. See the beginning of "Combings" for a detailed report.

Saturday 14th November 2009. Yorkshire Beekeepers AGM. Information from Tom Robinson

The meeting opened with an interesting talk on the question "Is the Honey bee native to Britain" by Dr Dorian Prichard.

The business meeting followed and some of the highlights as I see it was the membership of Yorkshire rose from 822 to 1001 some 20% rise.

£13,749 has been paid to BBKA in capitation fees from which we receive BBKA News and BBKA Insurance for Public Liability and Product Liability.

Bishop Burton Conference will be on 24 April 2010 and there are three speakers, Dr Giles Budge from the NBU, Willy Robson from Chain Bridge Honey Farm and Dr Jamie Ellis from the University of Florida.

Details will follow and it is always an interesting conference where people of like minds meet and is well worth the visit.

Wednesday 11th November.

A Committee meeting was held this evening. More in Association News.

Wednesday 18th November.

Our Annual Honey Show was held at Murton.

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WORDS FOR YOUR BEEKEEPING DICTIONARY.

MONANDROUS COLONY. Bees in a colony whose queen has been artificially inseminated with one drone.

POLYANDROUS COLONY. Bees in a colony whose queen has been artificially inseminated with multiple drones.

ANSWER to the question "What is a Morris Board". I don't know. Do you?

It is mentioned in Yates and Yates green volume on page 253. The topic is winter ventilation.

There are many boards in beekeeping - Snelgrove board, Cloak board, Basterfield board, Taranov board and Horsley board come readily to mind, but the Morris board is a new one on me. 🐝

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Due to the proximity of Christmas there will be no meeting in December.

Wednesday 20th January 2010. 19.30 Murton.

Geoff Coates Agri – Environmental Manager will speak to us on "Bumble Bees and their habitat.

Remember – you are a beekeeper, and, in the eyes of the public, an expert on any thing that flies. This is a good opportunity to get up to speed on one aspect of your knowledge.

Wednesday 17th February. 19.30 Murton.

Agronomist David Thwaites will speak on "Land and Bees".

Wednesday 17th March. 19.30 Murton.

An introduction to Seasonal Bee Inspector Dhonn Atkinson who will speak about his work.

Friday 26th March.

This is our Annual Dinner to be held at the White Swan at Deighton – a few miles south of York on the A19. 'Phone Secretary Tom Robinson on 01 904 626 170 for a menu.

Saturday 3rd April.

Lincolnshire BKA's annual auction will be held at the Lincolnshire Showground on the A15 a few miles north of Lincoln.

It is always a big do, usually with bees for sale. The auction its self is held under cover, so there are no problems with inclement weather.

Wednesday 21st April. 19.30 Murton.

Half yearly General meeting and a visit to our pavilion.

Saturday 13th March.

Yorkshire BKA Spring Conference. At the Yorkshire BKA Pavilion on the Great Yorkshire Showground at Harrogate.

Wednesday 14th April. 19.30.

York BKA Half Year General Meeting at Murton.

Saturday 17th April.

British BKA Spring convention at Stoneleigh. Members in advance £13.00, on the day £16.00.

Thursday 22nd to Sunday 25th April.

Harrogate Spring Flower Show.

Saturday 24th April.

Yorkshire BKA Bishop Burton Conference. 09.00 start.

This years speakers are, Dr Giles Budge – Research Co-ordinator at the National Bee Unit. Dr Jamie Ellis – Assistant Professor of Etymology at the University of Florida and Willie Robson from Chain Bridge Honey Farm.

Cost. £25.00 per head including lunch. £15.00 excluding lunch.

For more information and to purchase tickets contact Bill Cadmore, 104 Hall Lane, Horsforth, Leeds, LS18 5JG. 'phone 0113 216 0482.

Tuesday 4th May and Thursday 6th May. Murton 18.30

These are the start dates for this years Beginners Course. It is going to be held on two evenings each week due to unprecedented demand, for eight weeks

Saturday 15th May 2010. Murton.

Our 11th Annual Auction. Lots accepted from 09.00, viewing from 11.00 and the auction will commence at noon.

If you have any bees for sale, they must be examined by the Seasonal Bee Inspector prior to the sale. Bees to be brought to Murton the evening before the sale. The organiser is Nigel Davies 01 904 468 001.

Saturday 22nd May.

Apiary meeting. Contact Tom Robinson on 01 904 626 170 for the venue.

Saturday 5th June. Apiary Meeting 14.00

At the Nature reserve New Earswick hosted by David Gray. 01 904767 944.

Saturday 12th + Sunday 13th June.

Yorkshire BKA Queen Rearing Course with Clive de Bruyn. Beekeepers are being sounded out about this (October 2009) to see what numbers are likely to attend.

Sunday 4th July. Murton.

There is an open invitation to the public on the craft of beekeeping at the Yorkshire museum of Farming at Murton.

Saturday 10th July.

Jenny Smith will host this years barbeque. More details in your March "Combings". Jenny always puts on a good do. Don't miss it.

Tuesday 13th to Thursday 15th July.

The Great Yorkshire Show at Harrogate.

Wednesday 21st July.

Driffield Show, on the Kellythorpe Show Ground just south of Driffield.

Saturday 7th August.

Tockwith Show. £7.50 a head.

Saturday 14th August. Heather Meeting.

To be held at Dalby Forest. Contact Nigel Davies for more information nearer the time. 01 904 468 001.

Saturday 28th to Monday 30th August. (August Bank Holiday weekend)

Cawood Craft Fair.

Friday 17th September to Sunday 19th September.

Harrogate Autumn Flower Show.

Wednesday 22nd September. Murton 19.30.

A talk on honey showing by Tony Jefferson. To help you prepare your exhibits for next months Honey Show.

Wednesday 20th October. 19.30.

York BKA Annual General Meeting at Murton.

Wednesday 17th November. Murton.

York BKA Annual Honey Show.

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FOR SALE.

CLARO BEES for all your beekeeping supplies.

Large stock and very keen prices on all items.

Cedar National hive parts, frames (all in first and second quality), clothing, gloves, foundation, jars, spacers ,tools, smokers, medicines, straps etc. etc. all normally in stock and at below list prices. Advice on the selection and use of beekeeping equipment always available. Open every Saturday morning 09.00 to 12.30 April to October inclusive.

Beside the Harrogate Arms, past the RHS Harlow Carr Gardens, Crag Lane, Harrogate, HG3 1QA, or by arrangement: - 01 423 567 315. A map showing our location is available at www.hrbka.org.uk 

12oz/340gr hexagonal honey jars in boxes of 84 with lids at £23.50. **Ambrosia syrup** at £16.00 per 14kg tub. Contact Colin Hattee on 01 430 860 972. 

And finally. What does a bee require to travel on public transport?
A buzz pass. (A.Wag).

THE YORKSHIRE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

2010 Discount Purchase Offer Foundation & Varroa Treatment

WIRED FOUNDATION

Type of Foundation	Sheets	Price	Packs Required	Total Cost
British Standard Deep	10	f 4.00		
British Standard Shallow	10	£ 2.45		
Commercial Shallow	10	f 3.65		
Commercial Deep	10	£ 5.80		
14" x 12"	10	£ 7.00		
Langstroth Deep	10	£ 4.95		
Langstroth Shallow	10	£ 3.05		
B.S. Shallow Drone Base	10	£ 2.55		
B.S. Deep Drone Base	10	£ 4.30		

UNWIRED FOUNDATION

Type of Foundation	Sheets	Price	Packs Required	Total Cost
British Standard Shallow	10	£ 2.20		
British Standard Deep	10	£ 3.85		
Thin Shallow for Cut Comb	10	£2.20		
4Section Length.	10	£1.80		
14" x 12"	10	£ 6.85		

VARROA TREATMENT.

Pack Sufficient for 5 Hives	Price	Packs Required	Total Cost
Mite-Away (Formic Acid pads) for 10 hives	£39.90		
Apiguard	£17.00		
Oxalic Acid Solution 1 litre with syringe	£ 9.65		
Oxalic Acid Crystals 500g	£9.65		
Thymol Crystals 500g	£17.00		

Grand Total.....

Name.....

Association

Address

Post code.....

Tel.No.....

Cheques payable to Y.D.B.K.A.
Send to A.Johnston,"Gale House",
Lund Lane
Cliffe Common,
Selby. YO8 6PB.
Not later than Friday 8th January 2010.

