

Y.B.K.A. eNews

AFFILIATED TO THE BRITISH BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION



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Our Chairmans message

ARE you prepared ?

Although I have heard of one unfortunate member who has lost a large number of colonies most beekeepers are reporting that colonies seem to have come through the winter well. This means that we can start to be optimistic about the year ahead - and that means that we need to be sure that we have things ready - bees - equipment - plans - all in place.

Looking into my garage I personally wonder if I'll ever be ready. Having increased colony numbers last year I used every brood box I own - so now I have lots of colonies on double broods and no spares - hence the pile of 'flats' wondering when they are going to become boxes ready for swarm control. At least I have everything ready for the bee breeding apiary.

I have also invested in two new bee suits and a sealed bucket to keep my soda solution in, together with boxes of rubber gloves. As I've started moving from apiary to apiary I've become more conscious of the need to keep things isolated - if disease does occur in one apiary I don't want to spread it to all of the others. The notes of apiary hygiene which can be downloaded from Beebase give excellent advice on this. BBKA leaflets can also be downloaded.

Being prepared to care for our own livestock is not the only thing we need to be ready for - we can also prepare for the many beekeeping events that are on the calendar horizon....

Pam Hunter is an excellent speaker with an international reputation - she will give the talk at our Spring Meeting. Also speaking at the event will be a PhD researcher who need our help with her nosema project.

In the afternoon debate promises to be interesting as we discuss that thorny issue - money.

All members are welcome to attend this meeting - lunch is provided.

We also have our Bishop Burton Conference coming up - again with 3 excellent speakers.

We are also holding a Bee Breeding event as a part of our extended programme of encouraging Yorkshire beekeepers to breed local bees.

Details of all these events, together with application forms, are in this issue - have a look - book a place - come and enjoy learning and sharing with others. Auction dates are also given.

Bill Cadmore

MARCH

JOBS FOR THE MONTH

The danger month for bees - check that your bees have food.

Is there a good supply of pollen near your apiary ?

Willow or Hazel ?.

Check that the water supply is clean



March can be a very funny month and one that can be very testing for our bee colonies. Weather can vary from warm sunny days with temperatures around 10-14°C to very wintery and only in the very low 0-5/6°C with keen overnight frosts. These cold snaps are very detrimental to our bees at a time when the strongest of our colonies should be progressing and the queens laying capacities increasing. In the middle of March the workers should start to produce small amounts of drone brood cells, and these are slightly bigger than the worker brood cells. The queen will lay unfertilised eggs in these and the first male “drone” bees should emerge around the beginning of April. If however the weather in general throughout March is cold and damp this may set the process back a little along with the natural build up of the hive.

March is also a very critical time for your bees regarding stores, for this is the month when most colonies stocks of surplus food runs out and it's critical to ensure they have a constant supply of fondant or candy at this time to replace the used stores, if a cold snap comes along and the bees have to go into a cluster again for a short while. If however we get a forecast of good weather for one week of over 12-13°C for a 4 to 5 days then a rapid feeder can be placed over the colony on top of the crown board to give the bees a liquid feast they can process quickly into excess stores. This should be slightly weaker than your autumn feed and a mix of 1-1/2 lbs of sugar to a pint of water is adequate at this time. Too much water in the bees intestines can cause dysentery in your bees so be careful.

In March the last of your over wintered bees will die off, leaving only the new bees and brood laid by the queen this year, so the colony will be much smaller especially if your queen has not yet built up her egg laying capacity over the last month. This can be a problem and you may lose lava and eggs from the outer edges of the brood pattern if there aren't sufficient bees to cover them all in a cold snap.

Pollen should now be coming into the hives and on warmer days foraging should be on the increase as wild and cultivated flowers start to burst into life, seeing the bees with pollen on their legs at the entrance is a good sign the queen is laying and the colony is building up. Other things to watch out for are

- (1) Are your floor and entrance clean?
- (2) Is the colony queen right.
- (3) Does the brood look healthy.
- (4) Do your adult bees also look healthy and look in good shape?
- (5) Is plenty of food available?
- (6) Check for signs of Varroa and Nosema - treating where appropriate. If you're not sure ask a more experienced beekeeper to help.
- (7) Start to build up new frames ready for the coming season, however leave out the wax until required as fresh wax is far better for the bees to work with.
- (8) Ensure the colony has enough room to expand. You can on a warm day mid month do a very quick visual inspection to ensure all these criteria are met but try to do it on a wind free day when temps. are over 12/13°C and be as brief as possible for chilled brood can still occur and we don't want to set back the bees in any way.

If all these things are in place your bees should be well on their way to another successful season, but its up to you to watch out for your bees and feed and treat for disease when and where ever required.

Keep vigilant and read up on the latest news and disease treatments, Check dates for forth-coming auctions where you can purchase new and sometimes cheap equipment and bees. Borrow a book from your association library if available or simply buy a new good book to add to your collection and improve your overall knowledge.

Happy beekeeping
Dave Shannon

THE YORKSHIRE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

In conjunction with Bishop Burton College
Saturday 9th April 2011

YORKSHIRE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION
53rd CONFERENCE
AT BISHOP BURTON COLLEGE, BEVERLEY
EAST RIDING of YORKSHIRE

" Honey Bees and Beekeepers in our Natural Environment "

Our Speakers for the day**Dr Giles Budge**

Dr Giles Budge has worked in plant pathology research and development for 10 years. Giles started work at the National Bee Unit in October 2007 as the research co-ordinator. Prior to this, he was responsible for the development of real-time PCR-based diagnostics for bee pests and diseases and the delivery of the EFB study.

Prof. Keith S. Delaplane

Professor, Department of Entomology, University of Georgia,

Prof. Delaplane's expertise is in honey bee management, sustainable bee health management, bee foraging ecology, social evolution, and crop pollination. He oversees an off-campus lab of one dedicated state-funded technician, one soft-money technician, 1-2 graduate students, and 1-2 hourly workers. The lab work over 200 hives. He is the author of several books on beekeeping.

John Hendrie

John has been involved with bees and beekeeping almost all his life, having been stung at the age of two by one of his father's colonies. Since graduating from university in 1971, he has held many offices in local beekeeping associations, including branch secretary (12 years) and treasurer of Kent BKA (8 years), He was appointed to the exam board of the BBKA in 1991, is a vice chairman of the National Honey show and a director of Bee Craft magazine.

Programme

0900 – 0930	Registration
0930 – 0935	Welcome and Introductions
0935 – 1030	Prof. Keith S. Delaplane Honey bee ecology and its application to beekeepers
1030 - 1050	Coffee
1050 – 1150	Dr Giles Budge Colony losses
1200 – 1300	John Hendrie Communication in bees
	Luncheon
1400 – 1500	Prof. Keith S. Delaplane Honey bee genetics and breeding
1500 - 1545	Discussion Talk with the speakers in smaller groups
1545– 1615	Tea Goodbyes and disperse

Other Attractions**Northern Bee Books**

A variety of the latest beekeeping publications will be on sale.

National Bee Unit

An information stand will be available.

Stamfordham Beekeeping Supplies

Suppliers of quality beekeeping supplies

Yorkshire Beehives

Hive made to order by local craftsman

Compak-Spink

Suppliers of all sorts of containers and honey jars

Varroa destructor

A good time to remind ourselves about the basic facts

Varroa destructor – A summary

Varroa destructor is an external parasite of the honeybee *Apis mellifera* and feeds on the bees haemolymph (blood). Its natural host is the Asian honeybee *Apis cerana* which has evolved with the mite to develop a natural resistance. It has spread to the European honeybee by beekeepers taking colonies to the Far East to improve honey production. There was a natural transfer of the mite and beekeepers then moved the infested colonies around the world.



The Mite

The adult female mite is a reddish brown in colour, oval in shape and measures about 1.1mm x 1.6mm. It has 8 legs. It is a member of the arachnidae – a group containing spiders and other mites.

Life Cycle

Adult female Varroa mites enter a brood cell just before it is capped. Drone cells are preferred and the drone brood produces a kairomone (smell) which is more attractive to the mite than that produced by the worker brood.

The mite squeezes past the larva and becomes immobile, immersed in the larval food at the bottom of the cell. Only the breathing tubes (peritremes) are exposed. Once the cell has been sealed and the brood food consumed by the larva, the mite is released and then pierces the exoskeleton of the larva to feed on its haemolymph. See <http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=-7304562435786960616#>

Egg laying begins about 60 hours after the cell has been sealed.

The first egg to be laid is haploid (7 chromosomes) and develops into a male. Subsequent eggs laid at about 24 hour intervals are diploid (14 chromosomes) and develop into females. The actual timing may vary due to external effects.

A 6 legged larva develops in the egg and hatches into an 8 legged protonymph. This then moults into a deutonymph and finally to the adult form.

Average numbers of female mites developing are as follows

Worker cell 2.2

Drone cell 4.2

Recent work at the Central Science Laboratory (CSL) indicates an average of 1.45 viable female mites from a worker cell.



The male mite does not eat and its sole purpose is to mate with its sisters and it then dies and remains in the cell. The mated females live on the young host bee until they enter cells to reproduce.

In the summer mites live about 2-3 months but much longer in the winter. When they are on the adult bee they are described as phoretic. In summer mites can manage 2 reproductive cycles producing ~ 8 daughters if using drone brood.

The effect on the colony

The number of mites per cell has a marked effect on the protein levels in the haemolymph and can reduce it by up to 50%. This causes a marked reduction in the final weight of the bee and its life span. If more than 5 mites are present the bee may not survive. If it does there will be marked damage to the wings legs and abdomen. It takes about 3 to 5 years before the colony is weakened to a critical stage when there is a rapid decline in the adult population and severe brood damage. Death of the colony soon follows.

In heavily infested colonies the weakening of the bees and reduced life span disrupts normal hive routine leading to poor hygiene. At this stage bacterial and viral diseases can thrive and may be the cause of the terminal collapse.

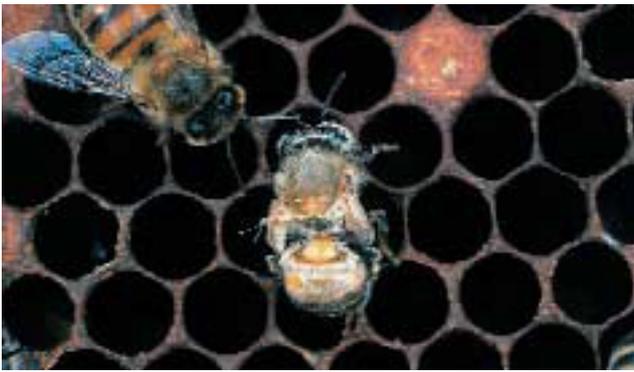
Signs in the colony

It is unlikely that any signs will be noticed until the colony has been affected for about 3 years. It is very difficult to see the mite on the adult bee as it lives in the intersegmental region of the lower abdomen. As it breeds in the sealed cell it cannot be seen unless the cell is opened and the contents examined.

As the infestation progresses small malformed bees begin to appear and brood patterns are affected.

Signs of colony collapse

- A sudden decrease in adult bees
- Bees with deformed wings and abdomens
- Numerous mites on the remaining bees and in brood cells
- Abnormalities of brood Bald brood



Poor brood pattern

Neglected and dead brood

Discoloured and partly removed brood

Please note that these changes are also seen in foul brood and need to be checked by a bee inspector.

Spread of Varroa

Robbing When a colony is severely affected it becomes a target for robbers. Not only do they take any stores but also pick up large numbers of mites.

Drifting Poor apiary design will allow young bees to 'drift' into neighbouring colonies. This is particularly important with drones as they are accepted into any colony.

Migration Bees from collapsing colonies abscond from their own hive with the robbers and increase the mite load in the robbers hive.

Swarming A swarm from an infested colony will always carry mites with it. It is essential to test any swarm for the mite and treat it before introducing it to the apiary. Swarms from feral colonies are no more likely to be free than those from managed colonies but can spread the mite naturally by 3-5km per year.

Beekeepers Manipulative management by the beekeeper can transfer affected bees to other colonies in the apiary and to other apiaries. Migratory beekeeping can cause a rapid spread throughout a country.

Detection

1. Examination of the floorboard/hive debris

This method is not very reliable particularly when infestation is light. The small number of mites which drop are easily missed.

2. Uncapping brood

This is done on the drone brood during a normal colony inspection. Note that if the mites are very young they will not be as dark as the adults and easily missed. A frame of drone foundation can be used in the brood chamber to make examination easier and can also be used as a method of control

Monitoring

Once the mites have been detected the use of a Varroa floor can be used to determine natural mite drop.

Regular examination of drone brood can also be used. Monitor more than 1 colony in the apiary to make sure you have a representative result.

The benefits of monitoring are to show if your control methods are working

Control

Biotechnical

Comb Trapping The queen is caged for 9 days on three combs in succession. These are left in the hive for a further 9 days to allow the mites to enter. The combs with the mites trapped in the sealed brood are removed and destroyed. To reuse the combs place them in a deep freeze for a couple of days to kill the brood and mites.

Then uncapping and wash the contents out of the cells.

Drone Brood using sheets of drone foundation in the brood chamber or super frame to allow drone comb to be drawn underneath it cause the queen to lay drone brood. This is more attractive to the mite and once capped can be removed and the contents disposed of.

Like the method above there is a danger that if you are unable to remove the sealed comb and it hatches you will have increased the mite population rather than reduced it.

Hard Chemical

Bayvarol (flumethrin) and Apistan (fluvalinate) are no longer of any use because the mites are resistant to them.

Soft Chemical

Licensed soft chemicals such as Apiguard contain thymol. Used as per manufacturers instructions can obtain a 90-95% efficiency. The NBU website gives up-to date information on what is available.

Organic acids (formic acid, oxalic acid and lactic acid) have shown efficiencies of upto 90% but are best used in broodless conditions as they can cause brood loss and even the loss of the queen.

Integrated pest Management

This is a well tried practice throughout agriculture and uses a variety of controls

applied throughout the season. The benefits are

- Control at several points makes it harder for the mites to reach harmful levels

Including a biotechnical method can slow mite reproduction and reduce the need for chemicals.

- Control strategy can readily be adjusted to reflect changing infestation levels

The NBU site gives a useful table to show what treatments are effective at different time of the year.

Yorkshire Beekeeper's Association

Bee Breeding Conference

26th March 2011

Normanby Pavillion - Great Yorkshire Showground

10.30 – 15.30

Following on from the very successful 2010 weekend event on grafting and the use of mini-nucs the Y.B.K.A. General Purposes Committee are pleased to announce the next step in our campaign to encourage District Associations to breed local bees suited to local conditions and to encourage their members to be a part of that programme.

Programme for the Day

- | | |
|-------|--|
| 10.00 | Sign-in. Tea and Coffee |
| 10-30 | Welcome & Overview of bee breeding programme and day |
| 10-50 | Seminar 1
What are the essentials of Bee Breeding ?
10 questions for you to discuss and answer |
| 11-30 | Record Keeping
A short talk on effective record keeping
David Allen |
| 11.50 | A simple and Effective Bee Breeding Method that anybody can use
Tony Jefferson |
| 12-50 | Lunch |
| 13-30 | “What we are doing.....”
3 Short inputs from districts/members already involved in breeding bees |
| 14.30 | Seminar 2
Practical Aspects of Queen Rearing |
| 15.10 | The Way forward and next steps |
| 15.30 | Depart |

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Application

We hope that 3 members from each district association will attend this event – if more than 3 people apply from a district then additional places will be allocated on a 'first come-first served basis' after the deadline date of 10th March 2011. You will be asked to make a donation of £5 towards the costs of the day which includes lunch.

Name _____

Email _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

District Association _____

Individual Needs (diet etc.) _____

Send to Mr Brian Latham
 Hon. Sec. YBKA
 111 Woodland Road
 LS15 7DN

Email brian.latham@ntlworld.com

BEEES

by Kezzie Marsay

YBKA Newsletter

Following a talk to school children at Staithes Primary School by Allan Jefferson, the school children were asked to report it as homework. The following article is the result of one pupil carrying out extensive research work to complete her objective.

BEES by Kezzie Marsay

Although the old style of hives look pleasant at the foot of the garden there is nearly twice as many components in their construction. Internally the old hive is the same size as a modern hive but is clumsier to use. Incidentally the 'old' style is called a WBC after its inventor William Broughton Carr and the most popular standard 'hobby' hive in Britain is the National hive.

Honeybees are special in that they over winter as a colony unlike wasps and bumblebees. The colony does not hibernate but stays active and clusters together to stay warm. This requires a lot of food stored from the summer before.

Although a hive only needs 20-30lb of honey to survive an average winter, the bees are capable, if given more space of collecting much more. This is what the beekeeper wants them to do. Bees have been producing honey the same way for over one hundred and fifty million years.

One hive can produce 60lb (27kg) or more in a good season, however an average hive would be around 25lb (11kg) surplus. Bees fly about 55,000 miles to make just one pound of honey, that is 1 ½ times around the world!

For bees to make honey they take nectar, which is sweet sticky substance exuded by most flowers and some insects, and mix it with enzymes from glands in their mouths. The nectar/enzymes mix is stored in hexagonal wax honeycomb until the water content has been reduced to about 17%. When this level has reached the cell it is capped over with a thin layer of wax to seal it until the bees need it. This capping indicates to the beekeeper that the honey can be harvested. Capped honey can be kept almost indefinitely.

The youngest bees cluster in large numbers to raise their body temperature. Wax producing glands under their abdomen slowly secrete slivers of wax about the size of a pinhead. Other worker bees harvest these wax scales and take them to the part of the hive requiring the new wax. Bees use about 6lb of honey to produce 1lb of wax.



Royal jelly is the food fed to queen bee larvae. It is a creamy white colour and is very rich in proteins and fatty acids. It is produced by the mouth glands in young bees. Each queen needs only a teaspoon of royal jelly, so as a health product it is very expensive.

Bees have six legs that are specially designed with stiff hairs to store pollen when flying from flower to flower and the front pair have slots for cleaning their antenna. They have 4 wings that hook together to form one big pair of wings and unhook for easy folding when they are not flying. They have 5 eyes, 2 of them are large compound eyes and there are 3 smaller ocelli eyes in the centre of their head.

There are three types, a single queen, thousands of female workers and in the summer there are hundreds of male drones. The drone bee does no work however in the early autumn they are evicted by the worker bees and the drones die.

The major purpose of a queen bee is to lay eggs. During April and May she lays day and night, each egg would be taking about 20 seconds. That's over 2,000 eggs a day, more than her own body weight. There are 3 types of wax cells for the eggs. In the



smallest cells (5mm diameter) she lays fertilised eggs, which in 21 days they produce female worker bees. In larger cells (7mm diameter) unfertilised eggs are laid which in 24 days become the male drone bees. A very special cell that hangs vertically downwards is used to produce new queens. A colony producing queen type cells warns the beekeeper of an impending swarm.

In the summer a worker bee only lives for about 40 days. As no young bees are raised over the winter months, the workers born in the autumn will live until the following spring. A queen can live up to 5 years however for a beekeeper a queen is past her prime in her third year.

When a bee is born its first job is to clean out the cell in which she was born in. Jobs are then allocated on the basis of age.

These are the duties of a worker bee:

- | | |
|------------|---|
| 1-2 days | - cleans cells and keeps the brood warm |
| 3-5 days | - feeds older larvae |
| 6-11 days | - feed youngest larvae |
| 12-17 days | - produces wax, builds comb, carries food, undertaker duties |
| 18-21 days | - guards the hive |
| 22+ days | - flying from hive begins, pollinates plants, collects pollen, nectar and water |

In the summer there are about 35,000 in a beehive and in winter it drops to around 5,000

A swarm is the natural way for bees to multiply and produce new colonies. It is normally the culmination of queen rearing.

Bees communicate by what is known as bee dancing

Bees don't sleep they only remain motionless reserving their energy for the next day.

It is possible for bees to fly as far as 5 miles for food, however an average distance would be less than a mile away from the hive. a strong colony flies the equivalent distance of the



moon each day. A honey bee will not fly much higher than the height of an obstacle in its path.

The normal top speed of a worker bee would be about 15-20mph when flying to a food source and about 12mph when returning laden down nectar, pollen, propolis or water.

A bee will only sting people under two conditions. To protect the colony or when frightened. when a bee stings, barbs in the lance of the sting causes it to firmly stick into the victim pulling out their venom sacs and glands when the bee is shaken off. Only the female workers and the queen can sting, the queen having a smooth sting which she uses to kill other queens.

In Russia they use bee stings as a treatment.

By Kezzie Marsay

The Yorkshire Beekeepers' Association

Registered charity number 509743

A council and Spring Conference meeting of the Yorkshire Beekeepers' Association will be held on Saturday 12th March 2011 at the Normanby Pavilion Great Yorkshire Show Ground Harrogate

start 10:00 hours.

10.00 - 10.30 Coffee

10.30 - 10.45 Welcome and opening

10.45 - 11.45 **Speaker: Pamela Hunter**

“Are current problems really that new”

11.45 - 12.00 Questions

12.00 - 12.15 **Kate Roberts**

Nosema research report

12.30 - 13.30 Lunch

13.30 - 16.00 **Council meeting continued**

AGENDA

- 1 Opening of council meeting
- 2 Apologies
3. Appointment of “Tellers”
4. Declaration of business for discussion under any other business
5. Minutes of last meeting
6. Matters arising
7. Secretary's report
8. Treasurer's report
9. Capitation fees
10. BBKA delegate report
11. Bishop Burton 2011
12. YBKA research fund proposals
13. AOB
14. Closure; date, venue and time of next meeting.

NB. A buffet lunch will be provided.

General Secretary

Brian Latham

111 Woodland Road

Leeds LS15 7DN

Telephone: 0113 264 3436

Yorkshire Beekeepers association Bee Disease Research Fund

The Proposal

In conjunction with the Network of Northern Beekeeping Associations' (NNBA) the General Purposes Committee of Yorkshire Beekeepers Association propose to establish a research fund.

The fund will finance a research project, based at a northern university.

The project will last for a three-year period and will sponsor 1 PhD researcher. If we get agreement for the project to go ahead at the March meeting of Y.B.K.A. delegates the project could start in the following January.

The actual nature of the research project to be funded by NNBA and Y.B.K.A. will be subject to agreement between the institute and beekeeping association. It will be field and laboratory experimental work with bees breed in Yorkshire. Two suggestions that have been put forward are:-

1. Extending the work already started by Yorkshire beekeepers into breeding varroa resistant bees
2. Extending preliminary work already done that indicates that pollen in the diet can greatly affect the bee's ability to resist disease causing organisms.

Benefits to Yorkshire Beekeepers

We anticipate the following benefits:-

1. Research outcome that will be of direct and immediate use to beekeepers (e.g. Increasing the dandelion pollen intake will increase your bees resistance to nosema by 62% - please note that this is hypothesis not a research finding – yet!)
2. Y.B.K.A. members to be credited as co-authors where appropriate
3. Y.B.K.A. to have direct links, via the research student, to world wide network of university based researchers
4. Monthly reports from the research to be published in the YBKA eNews
5. Presentation of research progress to YBKA at the Spring and Autumn conference
6. The researcher to be a speaker at district association meetings

Benefits for the University

1. An additional resource of seed funding
2. An additional research project linked to a beekeeping organisation enhancing reputation
3. Links to 1200+ beekeepers and their bees enabling large scale sampling (30 bees) from lots of sources.

Meet a Researcher

We have invited Kat Roberts, B.Sc, M.Sc., to give a brief talk (15 minutes) at the Spring Conference on March 12th. YBKA members will have the opportunity to meet and talk with somebody who is presently half way through a PhD research project. Kat is researcher Nosema and has some very interesting preliminary findings.

The Eastern region Research Project

The beekeeping associations in the National bee Unit (NBU) eastern region have been involved in sponsoring a PhD research student for more than a year now. They report very positively on the experience. The project is based at Sheffield University.

The associations involved receive continuous updates from 'their' student via email and a newsletter.

Funding

If YBKA (together with other NNBA members) can raise £4000 per year for each of the 3 years this money can be used by the university as INDUSTRIAL SPONSORSHIP and allow them to raise funding from other foundations, the EU and the government.

This 'seed' sponsorship enables the university to raise funding in the region of £80,000 which will fund the project.

How YBKA proposes to raise the funding

The GPC proposes to invite each district within YBKA to raise funds towards this project proportional to their membership.

How each district raises the funds will be left entirely to the district.

Some districts have already indicated that they will make a direct donation from their existing funds.

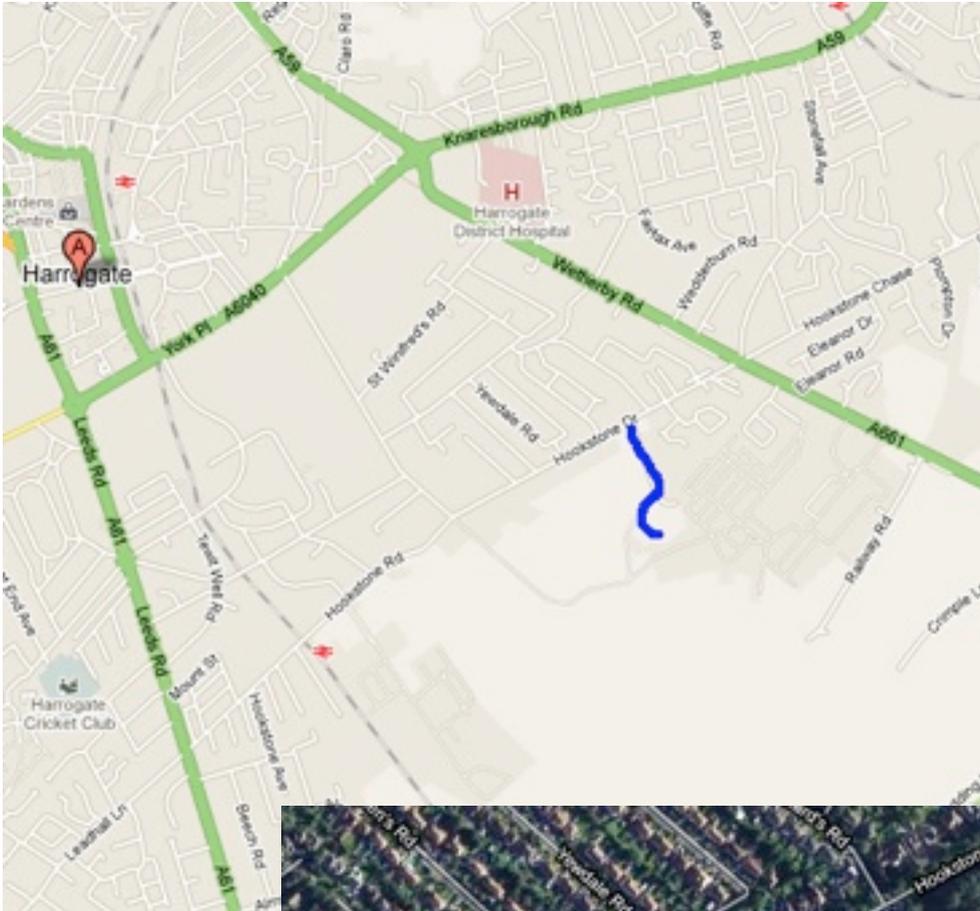
Some district propose to levy £5 or £10 per new beekeeper they train for the research fund.

Some districts have said that the monthly raffle money will be donated.

YBKA will donate the proceeds from the Bishop Burton Raffle to the funds and are considering other ways to raise funding such as a donations box at the Yorkshire Show.

Y.B.K.A MAP

How to find the Normanby Pavilion
The Great Yorkshire Showground



All funds collected in this way will be ring fenced for research only so that they cannot be transferred into general funds.

The Cost

We need to raise £2.50 per member of Y.B.K.A. for each of three year.

This could be achieved if every member sold 1 jar of honey and gave the money to the research fund.

If your district has 50 registered full members then the district would be asked to give £125.00 per year to the fund.

The YBKA Delegates votes at the Spring Conference

At the spring conference your delegates will be asked to vote on the following proposals:-

1. The General Purposes Committee should establish a research fund.
2. Two YBKA members, who are not members of the GPC, should be appointed to manage the fund. They will work with the YBKA Treasurer to ensure the correct use of funds.
3. District Associations will raise funds for the YBKA research fund by means of their own choosing.

These are important votes that involve a cost for each district association, although the district association's management committee will determine the exact cost. The GPC feel that at least 66% of delegates need to support the proposals for them to be carried forward.

Bill Cadmore
Chairman
On behalf of the General Purposes Committee
9 February 2011

Auctions

Why not buy or sell at one of the local auctions?

Sat. April 2nd Lincoln BKA auction, held on the Lincoln showground, Nr. RAF Scampton
Auction of all ranges of beekeeping equipment new and old and live bees in nucs. and full hives.
Viewing and entries from 2-00pm on Friday 1st of April, auction starts at 11-00pm on Sat 2nd.
Northern BKA auction held on Sat 9th of April also at Houghton Nr. Carlisle Also an auction of all old and new beekeeping equipment and live bees.

Sat. 9th of April Nottingham BKA auction, held on the Newark showground just off the A1 at Winthorpe. Auction starts at 2-00pm and entries accepted from 10-00a m on that day. Auction of live bees and a full range of various beekeeping equipment.

Beverley BKA auction of bees and beekeeping equipment will be held on Sun.10th April at the village hall Woodmancy, aprox. 5miles down the

Hull Rd. out of Beverley sign posted on the R/H side of the road to the venue. Auction starts at 12-00pm and bees and equipment accepted from 9-00am on that day for inspection..

York BKA are holding their beekeeping equipment and live bees auction on Sat. the 14th of May at Murton farming museum just off the A64 next turning after A19 to York turn off. Auction starts at 2-00pm and bees and equipment accepted from 9-00am on Friday 13th. In all auctions all live bees to be inspected by a FERA officer before sale to ensure clean and healthy colonies only are sold, also NO drawn out frames supers or brood that have had brood in previously will be accepted into any sale at the risk of transmitting any related diseases.
Dave Shannon

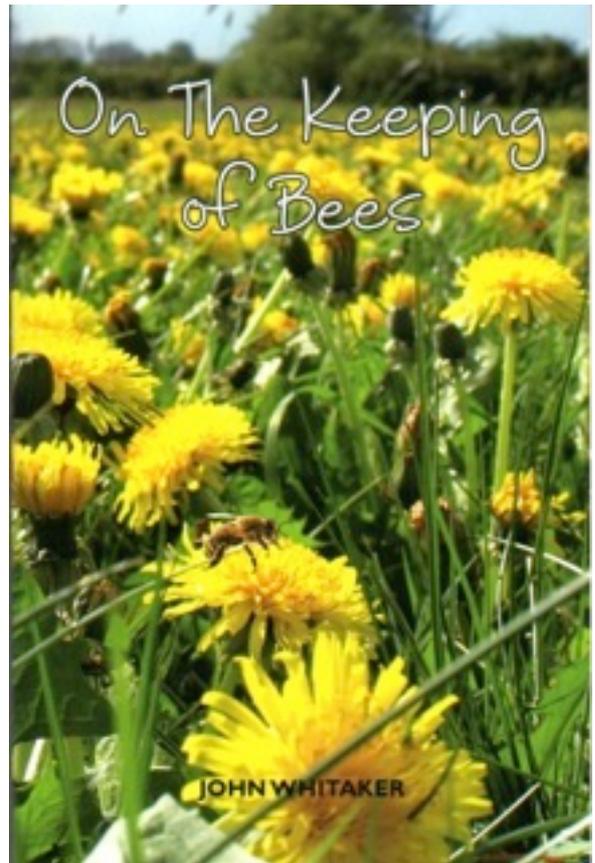
P.S. Remember that YBKA has issued a guide to buying and selling at auctions. Read this before you buy or sell.

On the Keeping of Bees by

John Whitaker

This excellent book for novice
beekeepers can be purchased
from

<http://www.ypdbooks.com/the-natural-world/355-on-the-keeping-of-bees-YPD00325.html>



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Y.B.K.A. DATES

YBKA Spring
Conference
March 12th 2011
Yorkshire Showground

Bee Breeding Event
March 26th 2011
Yorkshire Showground

Bishop Burton
9th April 2011
Bishop Burton College

Schools Days
14th-15th June 2011
Yorkshire Showground

Great Yorkshire Show
12th-14th July 2011
Yorkshire Showground

AGM
December 3rd 2011
Yorkshire Showground

GPC Meetings
4th February 2011
6th May 2011
17th June 2011
23rd September 2011
3rd December 2011

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