

Bromley Bee News Monthly Update

Published by the Bromley Beekeepers



Peter and Robin demonstrating

Welcome to the **August 2002** issue of Bromley News.

The end of the beekeeping season arrives. Out of my seven hives four have produced an excellent crop and are ready for harvesting. I have the luxury to be able to plan my annual holidays around my beekeeping, for other amateur beekeepers this may not be possible. You should bear in mind that anti-Varroa treatments applied too late in the season will have reduced effectiveness, and possible consequences for your beekeeping neighbours. Having a timetable will focus everybody's efforts. This is how I intend to perform military operations with my hives.

10-11th August - Go round all out apiaries and fit Canadian Clearer Boards or similar.

14-16th August - Remove all supers from each hive during the early evenings and put each super in a plastic bag to seal them up.

At the same time install Apistan or Bayvarol strips.

17-18th August - Start extracting in the honey house, carefully selecting frames with lighter honey to extract first, something worth doing if you was thinking of entering in light honey classes.

14th September The Bromley and Orpington Honey Show.

Start thinking **NOW** about the branch honey show and what exhibits you will be entering. Success is all down to preparation and attention to detail. The National Honey Show website support pages give lots of useful information about preparing exhibits. Go to the URL: <http://www.honeyshow.co.uk/support.shtml>.

For a copy of the Bromley and Orpington Honey Show Schedule contact Peter Bashford Tel: 020 8656 7990. I'm hoping that you will also be able to download a

schedule from the Bromley branch website thus saving on postage.

On a routine visit to my allotment apiary I found vandals had pushed over one of my hives, I think its no coincidence it happened at the start of the school holidays. I was naturally very upset by this kind of stupidity, the brood box was on its side and the supers and frames where scattered around. This was a small stock on about 4 frames which was building up slowly and didn't have any honey in the supers. After putting it back together you would think nothing had happened.



New members David and Jane enjoying some fresh honey comb

Internet News

One of the best beekeeping newsletters produced is by the Federation of Berkshire Beekeepers Association. The August issue gives a lot of general beekeeping advice and beekeeping news which deserves wider readership. These newsletters can be downloaded from the Northern Bee Books website:

<http://www.beedata.com/news/fbbanewsletters.htm>

Improved web version of this newsletter with photographs

<http://www.kentbee.com/bromley/newsletters/augustbbk02.htm>

Apis-UK the FREE beekeeping web magazine. Download Apis-UK The August 2002 issue will soon be published <http://www.beedata.com/apis-uk/index.htm>

FREE PLUG Park Beekeeping Supplies <http://www.pbs.kentbee.com>

Item for Sale SOLD 14/08/02

Electric honey extractor Polythene, radial. Only used for one season on two hives, ideal for club/group or just a busy apiarist. Price £400-500 new, looking for £300 ono. Contact Nigel Mercier Tel: 07811-198719 or E-mail nigel.mercier2002@virgin.net Collect from Cranbrook, Kent.

Steven Turner

Apiary News

I suppose the most exciting moment of last month was when 48 visitors from Poland turned up at the Apiary at short notice as a sort of return visit of our last year's visit to Posnan. It was great to see them again and they enjoyed the activities in the apiary

despite the horrible weather. Our member Marion Makulski did wonders with the translations and our Tony was really in his element and had a wonderful time. We managed to mark a queen and inspected one or two of the mini nuc's although that last operation was carried out under our tarpaulin due to yet another cloudburst. Never mind, a good time was had by all.



48 Polish Beekeepers visit Bromley apiary

We have all been invited to John Farrar's Apiary on **Sunday 4th of August at 3:00pm**. You will find his apiary at the junction of Malling Way and Eastry Avenue. There is a footpath that goes round to the right and then straight on across the allotments. Please give John a ring if you intend turning up Tel: 020 8462 5164. I must apologise for the short notice but I was only informed about the event a week ago.

The queen rearing is well under way at our home apiary but the latest call on my time is the Horniman Observation Hive that has needed modifying. More anon.

Our next meeting at the apiary will be on August the 18th at 3:00pm. That of course follows Clive and Jack's BBQ at their apiary at Dorset Road on **Saturday 17th August at 4:00pm** an event not to be missed. Again please give him a call on 020 8658 3786 .Mobile: 0777 1990034

Another important event this month is Cudham Village Fair on **Monday 26th August**. Please find us some of your honey that we can sell, and if you can spare an hour or two helping on the stand it will be very much appreciated.

Sunday the 1st of September sees the resumption of our Sunday morning meetings which take place at 11:45 and carry on through until June of next year.

The honey flow for me has been a little disappointing but hopefully you have had a more satisfactory experience. Swarms have taken a lot of attention not all mine I hasten to say but other peoples. Hopefully I can re-queen some of my new stocks, which were all from swarms and hope for better results next year.

Peter Springall

Diary Dates

Saturday 17th August 4.00pm

Barbecue at Clive Watson's allotment apiary, Dorset Road, Beckenham, Kent. All

beekeepers are welcome, please ring Clive so he has an idea of the numbers coming.

TEL: 020 8658 3786 Mobile: 0777 1990034

Sunday 18th August 3.00pm

The branch apiary meeting. Beekeeping demonstrations and hive management. Tea and biscuits provided.

Monday 26th August - August Bank Holiday 12pm-5pm (outside event)

Cudham Village Annual Show and Fate.

Sunday 1st September 11.45am

The branch apiary meeting. Beekeeping demonstrations and hive management. Tea and biscuits provided.

Saturday 14th September - The Bromley and Orpington Honey Show and Beekeeping exhibition. Opens to the public at 2.30pm **FREE ENTRY**.

Emmanuel Church, The Grove, West Wichham, Kent.

See quality products of the hive; buy pure English honey; things for kids to do; watch the bees at work safely behind glass in the demonstration hive; beekeeping exhibits and more. Refreshments available.

For more information

Peter Springall 020-8690-3906 Mobile: 07779970104 [E-Mail](#)

Tom Winks Chairman 020-8777-3144

Clive Watson 020-8658-3786

Steven Turner (editor) 020-8698-0313 [E-Mail](#)

Visit our website www.kentbee.com/bromley

Advertising

Advertise in this space for as little as £10. Contact the editor

[Back](#) | [Click here to print this page](#) Page updated August 14, 2002