

# Welwyn Beekeepers Newsletter

## November 2017

### NEWS SUMMARY

Here's what we've been up to during the last month:

- Attended the Tewin Orchard and Codicote Apple Day
- Held the Honey Tasting Social Evening
- Held the Bee Awareness Session

And we are looking forward to:

- Hatfield House Frost Fair November 16-19
- WBKA Christmas dinner November 28 at the White Horse, Mill Lane, Welwyn

Regular items:

- Thoughts from the Beekeeper
- Around the Apiaries (will start again in spring)
- Training (will start again in spring)
- Events

See detailed reports overleaf.

### 2018 Membership

Membership renewal letters have been sent out by email by Rachel Leech to all existing members. If you have not done so yet and wish to renew please contact Rachel to ensure continuous membership. Also, should you not have received or no longer have the renewal email please contact Rachel at ([rachel.leech@hotmail.com](mailto:rachel.leech@hotmail.com)).

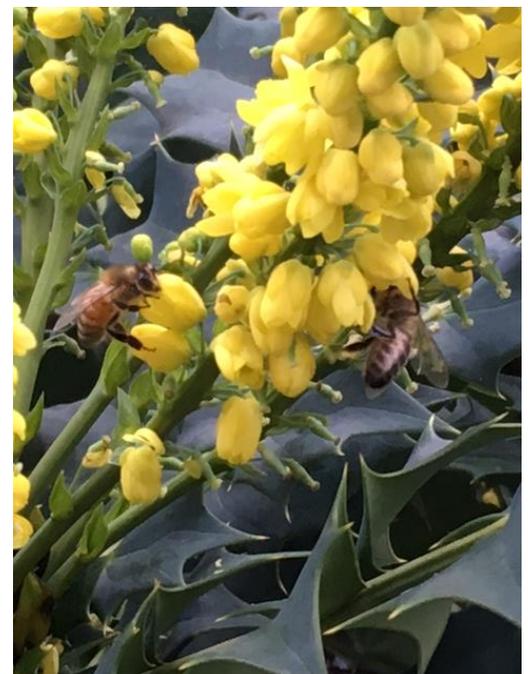
### Website - For Sale/Wanted

Now that the season is drawing to a close perhaps you might be thinking of sorting out the bee shed and getting rid of those under-used bits and pieces? If so, why not offer any unwanted equipment for sale on the Members Area of the website? Similarly, if you are looking for more equipment why not put a Wanted advert? Contact Andy at [andyc321@hotmail.com](mailto:andyc321@hotmail.com).

**Please support Welwyn Beekeepers by shopping at Waitrose in Welwyn Garden City during November, collect green tokens under the Community Matters Scheme and feed the Welwyn Beekeepers collection box. Thank you**

[www.welwynbka.org](http://www.welwynbka.org)

**Next Social Event**  
**Christmas Dinner**  
**November 28**  
**at the White Horse, Mill Lane, Welwyn**  
7.30 for 8 pm



**Don't forget to renew your Welwyn Beekeepers membership for 2018**

## **Tewin Orchard and Codicote Apple Days**



It is only the second year that we attended the Tewin Orchard Apple Day, but it seems to be getting busier each time. Lots of interest in bees and beekeeping, and a fair few jars of honey sold as well. Thank you to all involved. A big thank-you to Sue and David Parkins for running the stall at the Codicote Apple Day. Another well attended event given the small scale. Thankfully the weather held off...



## **Social Event: Honey Tasting**



How to fool a beekeeper's taste buds!

Thank you very much Lieva for organising our annual honey tasting evening. We all enjoyed tasting the different honeys and to our shame voted for the supermarket honey. Lieva sneaked in as the winner in the set category. Luckily our taste buds were more refined (or delicate) when it came to runny honey and Peter Folge's got the most votes (with the supermarket honey coming second).

Thank you also to Peter Folge who was hosting an impromptu Question and Answer session mainly focussing on winter preparation and feeding.

## **Social Event: Christmas Dinner, Tuesday November 28, 7.30 for 8 pm at the White Horse Welwyn**

We are looking forward to a festive evening at the White Horse, Mill Lane, Welwyn. Lieva has done an excellent job organising the evening and should you have any queries before the night please contact her (by email [welwynbees@gmail.com](mailto:welwynbees@gmail.com) or by phone 07949 624 354).

## **Bee Awareness Evening October 17**

Just over 30 people attended the Bee Awareness evening organised by Mike Goodhew at Christchurch Parkway in Welwyn GC. It was an excellent introduction into beekeeping which hopefully encouraged some of the participants to attend the beginners course in spring and maybe take up beekeeping afterwards. A big thank you Mike as well as all the speakers and helpers as without them the evening could not have taken place.

## **Thoughts from the Beekeeper**

*By Peter Folge*

All colonies should now be secure with mouse guards and netting in place. Keep an eye on the entrances and make sure that these do not become blocked with dead bees. Hives with solid floors should slightly slope towards the entrance block to allow any water to drain out.

Winter sales will shortly commence with some beekeeping companies, so it's a great time to take stock and perhaps put together a joint order with others which will save on excessive postage costs. More apiary thoughts next month.

## ***Forthcoming EVENTS with WBKA involvement***

Thursday – Sunday, November 16-19

Hatfield House Frost Fair

### ***Training***

All Apiary Training Sessions have concluded for this year.