



# The London Beekeepers' Association

# LBKA News

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## From our Chair



*Karin Courtman  
chair@lbka.org.uk*

I hope you and your bees are doing well and that we haven't lost too many swarms. I have had to do quite a few artificial swarms this year. The new queens are now laying nicely so I have started recombining the colonies. We should be moving into a less swarmy period. There have been fewer swarms come into the apiary this month. Now most of them coming in are not prime swarms, they are smaller with virgin queens.

This year we have collected a lot of feral swarms that have swarmed out of air vents on buildings. I have treated them for varroa with Apistan strips. I don't automatically treat the non feral swarms and yesterday I noticed enormous red-brown adult varroa sitting on unsealed brood in one colony. When I uncapped the brood I found at least 12 varroa in each cell! I am now treating them with Apigard but probably they will not survive as that is very bad varosis.

The first few nucs from this year have now left the apiary for their new homes. It looks as if there will be some more nice ones to come if anyone is still looking for bees. I hope to hear how these bees are doing, perhaps at the Summer Social, on 3<sup>rd</sup> August.



## Announcements

### Summer social

We've been planning the **Summer Social** with barbecue that will follow the August monthly meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> August (note that this is a week earlier than originally advertised) at **Walworth Garden Farm** (Manor Place, SE17 3BN; near Kennington station) at **11:00**. This **members-only** event will be **free** to members and their partners and families. **Please confirm your attendance in advance**, who you are bringing

with you and any dietary requirements by emailing [services@lbka.org.uk](mailto:services@lbka.org.uk).

## Resignation of Angela Woods as Secretary

Our Secretary, Angela Woods, has resigned. She has been offered a wonderful opportunity within the beekeeping community and we wish her the very best with a project we know she will enjoy and that enables her to keep up her good work helping beekeepers and promoting the welfare of honeybees across London.

Angela will continue to be active at the LBKA and we thank her for an invaluable contribution made during her four years as a committee member.

We are grateful to David Hankins (membership secretary) for taking over Angela's core duties, with other roles distributed amongst other members of the committee.

Angela's friends at the LBKA are welcome to keep in touch with her at [angela@angelawoods.com](mailto:angela@angelawoods.com).

## Honey Bee Husbandry Survey 2014

Monitoring the health of our honey bee population provides important information on the current husbandry methods being used by UK beekeepers and any trends in colony losses. Please support FERA's Bee Husbandry Survey at <http://survey.fera.defra.gov.uk/husbandry2014/survey.cfm>

The data are also being collected to assist with the Pan European EU network COLOSS (Prevention of honey bee losses in Europe). The survey takes approximately 15 minutes to complete and will be of great value beekeeping now and in the future.

## Bee Mural

Interested in helping out with a bee mural project in Brick Lane? Examples of the artist's work can be found at <http://www.louismasai.com/>. If you're interested in finding out more, please email [nadiya@heritagecarehomes.co.uk](mailto:nadiya@heritagecarehomes.co.uk).



## Out and about

Mark Patterson has been helping a garden design software company called plant partner revamp their software to include bee friendly plant selections with a view to a bee scoring system. He uses them at work and asked for the feature to be added (they have had similar requests from a lot of clients who want to easily plant for bees without having much knowledge of bees flower preferences) so they said fine, if he was willing to help them create it.

He's been doing this in his spare time with his LBKA hat on. The improved software and web resource will assist landscape designers/architects to make more informed plant selections to benefit pollinators. There are over 2500 plants featured with a scoring system- he has been very busy reviewing the selections! We'll be able to use the directory on our own websites plants for bees section once it's complete which can replace the existing list he created 2 years ago.

## We have (still) have nucs available!

Members with adequate beekeeping experience who'd like another colony of bees should contact [nucs@lbka.org.uk](mailto:nucs@lbka.org.uk). We still have nucs that we can sell to members for £140. Our nucs conform to BBKA nuc standard and the queen is marked and clipped. We recommend that people have done a basic beekeeping course and have been mentored for a season before getting their own bees.



## Bee Safari

*Amy, the tour guide for **Knepp Wildland Safaris**, contacted us to tell us about a bee Safari on Saturday 21st June.*

There are two safaris planned: a morning and afternoon one, each lasting around 3 hours. We start with a presentation from Dave Goulson who founded the Bumblebee Conservation Trust and bestselling author of 'A Sting in the Tail'. After the presentation we head out into the wildland looking for bees and flowers, as well as taking in the diverse range of wildlife – turtle doves, red kites, orchids and a plethora of butterflies. After our wildland experience we then drive in our Austrian Troop carrier – the Pinzgauer – to the Walled Garden for tea, coffee and homemade cake. The Victorian Walled Garden planted with a great variety of flowers specifically designed to attract insects is teeming with bees, beetles, hoverflies, moths and butterflies.

More details at: <http://www.kneppsafaris.co.uk/index.php/safaris/bee-safari>

*They only have a few places left, please call Amy on 07872 691075 if you'd like to book.*

## BIBBA 50th Anniversary Conference 2014

BIBBA are pleased to announce their 50th Anniversary Conference, in collaboration with SICAMM (Societas Internationalis pro Conservatione Apis Melliferae Melliferae) their European partners. It will be hosted by South Clwyd BKA.

The focus is on bee improvement, bee breeding, queen rearing and the management of native and near native honey bees.

Delegates will learn about improving their own stocks of honey bees, whilst enjoying an excellent and varied social programme.

For those wishing to extend their visit, the Llangollen area benefits from stunning scenery, a variety of activities and culture to suit all tastes.

See the programme at [http://www.bibba.com/conference\\_2014.php](http://www.bibba.com/conference_2014.php).

## LBKA at Brompton Cemetery

A reminder that if you'd like to sell your honey at the Brompton Cemetery open day on July 20th please contact Jon Harris ([treasurer@lbka.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@lbka.org.uk)).



[debikirksey.blogspot.com](http://debikirksey.blogspot.com)

## Newsletter

Thanks to Jon Harris, Emily Heath (via her excellent blog), Howard Nichols, Mark Patterson, Simon Wilks for their contributions this month.

Please contact Aidan at [services@lbka.org.uk](mailto:services@lbka.org.uk) if you'd like to discuss writing an article. I'd encourage you to do so!

## June in the apiary

Howard Nichols  
[education@lbka.org.uk](mailto:education@lbka.org.uk)

## Swarm control

This is still the main priority. Routine inspections should be made every 7 days to check for queen cells. Make sure you have sufficient spare equipment for swarm control. Upon finding queen cells, you have sufficient time to close up the colony, go home to think things through and collate equipment. You are unlikely to have time to order equipment from a supplier, have it delivered and make it up. For anyone with access to Ted Hooper's Guide to Bees and Honey then Artificial Swarm method is covered extremely well on pages 138 to 140. Fera also have a helpsheet for free download on the Beebase website. After artificially swarming the colony do not forget to check the



artificial swarm (the box with the old queen) to see if it is producing further queen cells.

## Removing honey

Another seasonal task in early June is removing and processing the spring honey brought in by the bees. This year we have had a fairly good spring and many members have spring honey. If spring honey is removed then keep a watch on stores within the hive.

## Collecting swarms

If your bees do swarm or you are called out to collect another swarm then personal and public safety should always be the overriding priority. Do not attempt to climb trees or use ladders beyond your capabilities. A simple order of action may be as follows:

- Make sure they are honeybees.
- If on someone else's land then obtain permission to enter from the landowner. If a branch of the tree needs to be cut then, again, make sure you have permission.
- Ensure any bystanders are moved away to a safe place.
- Put on bee suit and light smoker. Spraying the swarm with a fine mist of water is a refinement which will help keep the swarm in a cluster.
- Place a large sheet (an old bedsheet is ideal) on the ground underneath the swarm.
- After making sure that you are safe then deposit as much of the swarm as you can in a box or large bucket. Try to aim for 90% of the bees as you then have a 90% chance of including the queen.
- Turn box or bucket containing most of the collected swarm upside down on top of the middle of the sheet with a stone or piece of wood wedged between the box (or bucket) and the sheet. This allows access for the remaining bees.
- Come back at dusk to collect up the swarm by removing the stone and tying the sheet around the box. It can then be hived.

## Other action to be taken this month

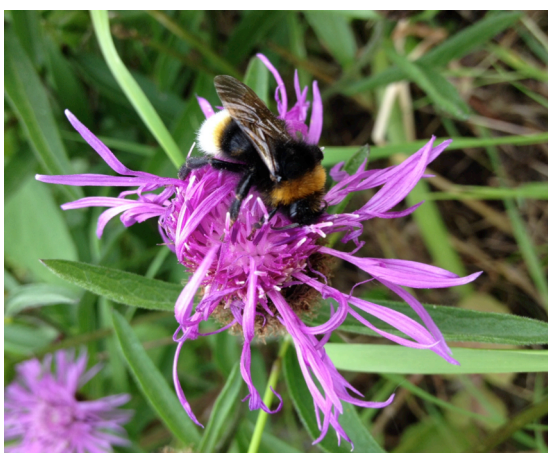
Add supers as necessary, adding another in advance of it being needed by the bees. This may be either a brood super or a honey super, depending upon circumstances.

Check varroa mite drop if not done in April or May. The Beebase varroa calculator is a useful diagnostic tool.

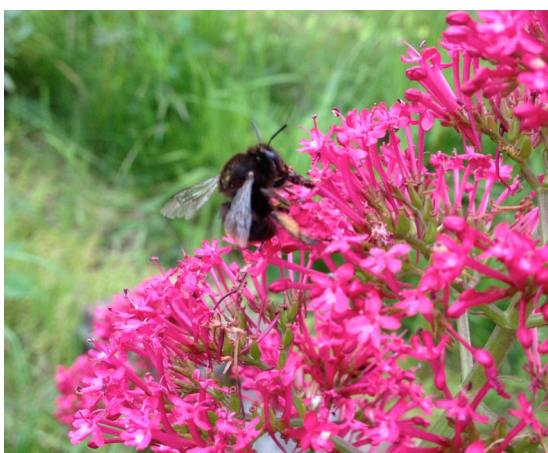
## June in the forage patch

*Mark Patterson*  
*forage@lbka.org.uk*

As I write this article it's the first of June and the lime trees are just opening their flower buds heralding a brief gluttony of forage for our honey bees. So far the spring of 2014 has been a good one for our bees. Early flowering and mild conditions have benefited our bees which have been spoilt for choice in urban areas for what to feed on. Many of our summer flowering shrubs have flowered much earlier than usual producing an abundance of nectar and pollen



Wild Knapweed growing in tower hamlets cemetery. It's showy cultivated relative *Centaurea Montana* a native of Southern Europe is popular as a garden plant bandbox very attractive to bumble bees.



A female hairy footed flower bee working Red Valerian. These bees will have disappeared by mid June and their cousin the fork tailed flower bee will emerge to take over, they favour flowers like knapweed.





Hardy geraniums and Cranesbills are attractive to bees. Many do well in light shade so are suitable even for small shaded gardens.



A honey bee alighting on an Allium flower. Look out for blue/green pollen on the bees legs as a clue they have been visiting flowering onions.



A bramble flower poking through a fence along a central London railway line. They are an important summer nectar source for honey bees and major constituent of London honey.



Geranium Ann folkard- with a visiting leaf cutter bee

sources. The same cannot be said of more rural areas. Those on the outskirts of London and in rural areas have been reporting a dearth in forage since the oil seed rape has finished and there is much talk of the dreaded "June gap".

Most of the spring flowering trees are now well over, apart from the odd horse and sweet chestnut most flowering trees are now bearing large unripe fruit. Last week near my apiary I spotted a cherry tree with almost ripe cherries on it!

There is a danger that due to the unseasonably early flowering of many important nectar and pollen sources we will experience something of a dearth in forage later in June once the lime blossom has finished. Many of the exotics which keep our bees well fed in the city during the summer months have also flowered early so may not be relied upon for forage later this month and into summer.

I think our salvation will be in garden herbaceous plants. Unlike trees and shrubs

which mostly flower just once per year many of our garden perennials flower for several months. Even those that usually only flower briefly early in the season can be encouraged to extend their flowering period if they are managed in the right way.

With many perennial plants flowering ceases once the first flush of flowers have been pollinated and set seed. This is because the plant has achieved its objective for the season of reproducing and casting its seeds to spawn the next generation of its species and spread its genes. If we regularly dead head and remove fading flowers on our garden plants we prevent the plant from achieving its reproductive outcomes so the plants will continue to produce flowers for a longer period until it achieves its goal of producing seed. With garden plants like Aquilegia, Perennial Corn Flower, Foxgloves, Wall flowers, Catmint and Salvias they can have their flower spikes cut down to encourage new flowers or the whole plant can be cut right back to the crown or lower rosette of leaves to encourage a second flush of flowers in another month or so. You can further encourage fresh growth and a second flush of flowers by giving them a good feed and mulch with well rotten

garden compost or lightly fork in some organic plant feed such as fish blood and bone meal and chicken manure pellets. This will help the plants recover from the shock of having their growth cut back and removed and provide them with the energy they need to bounce back. I usually do this with my herbaceous plants in late July and August to encourage a second flush of flowers in August into September and extend the foraging season for bees favouring those flowers. This year I think I will be having to do it earlier.

Other tips for extending the flowering season for garden perennials include keeping them watered - plants are much better at producing nectar if they are kept well watered. Once moisture in the soil becomes limited plants cannot afford to expend it on producing nectar so their flowers will dry up and the bees will lose interest in them.

We can also help ensure there is variety of forage later in the season by sowing annuals at regular intervals every few weeks. This will ensure a succession of flowers through the season.

What is out right now and what are the bees favouring at the moment? Right now the bees in my garden are busy tirelessly working my large patch of Phacelia. They are also visiting the pyracantha bushes around my apiary, broad beans in the veg patch, masses of clover and black medic in the nearby wildflower meadow and working alliums, salvias, Bramble along the railway embankment, catmints and my Bowles mauve everlasting wall flower which has flowered non stop since February and is still going strong. Summer flowering plants such as a hardy Geraniums and Cranesbills are also starting to flower and being visited by honey bees, as are the many wild and cultivated forms of Campanula's. This morning during a walk along the canal honey bees and solitary bees were busy working red Valerian growing out of the brick work. As the buds begin to break on the lime trees I'm eagerly awaiting the flood of nectar being brought into my colonies and watching the supers fill up.

## **BBKA Basic Assessments. How did we do?**

*Howard Nichols*

This year a total of 12 LBKA candidates took part in the BBKA Basic Assessments. The BBKA Basic is both a practical and oral assessment

and lasts about 1 hour. Each candidate is asked to assemble a frame, light the smoker then open a colony and demonstrate to the examiner that he or she can control the bees whilst, at the same time, answering a few questions about the colony contents. After going through the brood frames the candidate then reassembles the hive and goes on to the 2nd part of the assessment which is answering a series of straightforward questions about beekeeping, bee biology and diseases. The syllabus is broad in its range but not particularly deep. The full syllabus is available for download on the BBKA website and within the education section. LBKA members are actively encouraged to take this assessment as it is recognised as a substantial step forward in beekeeping education. Many allotment committees and other public bodies now require the beekeeper to have this certificate before they are allowed to keep bees on the establishment's land. The BBKA entry fee is £15 and we will even refund this to all our successful candidates.

The process started back in November with potential candidates being given electronic course notes for light Winter reading. These notes cover the syllabus from beginning to end. Formal study is not required, just a reading of the course notes over the winter months. In March and April we had 3 x 2 hour revision sessions at Roots and Shoots and went through the syllabus item by item. By the last session we had the assessment dates arranged with the assessor and each candidate was allocated a date and time.

So, on to the actual assessments. These were held over 3 days in May at an apiary in Streatham, south London. Each day 4 candidates were assessed.

The 1st session was on Saturday, 3rd May. The weather was good, no rain and warm sunshine. Candidates arrived and departed throughout the day; each candidate arriving 1 hour before the allotted time so ensuring the assessor will not be kept waiting if anyone is delayed. The first day had commenced at 10.00am and finished about 4.00 pm. It was repeated a further 2 times and by late May all candidates had been assessed.

Last year we had drama on the 1st day when a swarm emerged. We did not have this happening this year. Instead, a swarm emerged on the 2nd day of the assessments and just as the 1st candidate of the day was lighting his smoker. The intrepid Matthew Bruce was unperturbed by this and calmly commenced his assessment with the bees swarming around him. The swarm then settled on a branch and, 10 minutes later, came back into the apiary as it did not have its queen. This caused further

disruption to the apiary but not to Matthew. (The hive had been artificially swarmed about 1 week earlier and had a queen excluder between the floor and brood chamber to prevent the old queen leaving).

The final candidate on the final day, Nicolas Knittel, excelled by finding a small, newly mated and unmarked queen in a hive containing a brood and a half of brood frames. The queen was little bigger than a worker and this level of observation is considerably beyond the level required for the assessment. Finding the queen is not actually part of the assessment.

How did we do? As already stated a total of 12 candidates took this assessment. A total of 12 candidates also passed. A major reason for this success rate is undoubtedly due to the commitment of all candidates. Another significant reason is the LBKA mentoring programme. Each year more experienced members freely give of their time to teach new members the craft of beekeeping. The newer member (mentee) assists the more experienced beekeeper (mentor) and so starts to learn a variety of skills during the course of a beekeeping season. This provides a solid foundation to the newer beekeeper. The LBKA would like to thank all its mentors for participating in this invaluable service.

On behalf of the LBKA, I would like to thank both of our assessors, Kay Wreford and Bob Smith from Medway, Kent. Both travelled a considerable distance and freely gave of their time and expertise so that all candidates could be assessed. It is greatly appreciated by all of us.

Finally, anyone who has kept bees for a minimum period of 12 months and wishing to undertake this assessment in 2015 can register by giving his or her name and email address to any committee member or by sending an email to [education@lbka.org](mailto:education@lbka.org). Further details will be given in an autumn newsletter.

Members who passed their BBKA Basic are Aidan Slingsby, Chris Barnes, Corrine Edwards, Dominique Bernard, Nicolas Knittel, Cerys Williams, Christopher Self, Jacqueline Perry, Matthew Bruce, Sarah Nicholl-Carne, Paul Webb and Simon Blatherwick.

In addition, Liz Gill, Mark Patterson and Abby Taubin passed their Module 1 written examination in March 2014.

## Opportunities for Members

*Various opportunities for members become available from time-to-time. Please contact David at [membership@lbka.org.uk](mailto:membership@lbka.org.uk) if you are interested in any of them.*

A resident in SW14 has offered a hive location in her garden, to a responsible beekeeper, in exchange for a few jars of honey each year. The property is down a very quiet lane with no footpaths, and there is a choice of large front garden accessed via a 5 bar gate, or side access via a locked gate into the back garden.

Similarly, a business in NW3 is interested in talking to a beekeeper about a managed hive solution - no details yet about what the business expects from the arrangement, but we should be able to pass on further details to anyone interested in exploring this opportunity soon.

LBKA has been asked to provide someone to speak on beekeeping for the August meeting of one of the London branches of the WI. Requests of this sort are frequent, and we'd like to expand our pool of speakers so that we can accept as many of these invitations as possible. These speaking events are usually very informal and could well be suited to a team of 2 people, sharing stories of their beekeeping experiences while passing on a little knowledge of honey bees and related topics.

And finally, a north London retailer of fine foods & organic produce is interested in acquiring local honey to sell in his shop. If you have honey to sell, or are interested in any of the other opportunities above, please contact David at [membership@lbka.org.uk](mailto:membership@lbka.org.uk).

## Musings of a beekeeper: Temperament

*Simon Wilks*

If there's been a theme to this season, so far, it's been grumpiness. I can't think of a year when I've heard of, or met, so many colonies turning grumpy and starting to sting and follow for apparently no reason at all.

There's no shortage of advice on how to tackle aggressive colonies. It's always the same, and it always involves re-queening, unless there's no queen to hand, or the colony is in a public space, in which case the hive should be destroyed.

The reason for this advice is that grumpiness is apparently caused by Bad Genes and, because



Bad Genes are passed down to the members of a colony through the queen, then putting in a new queen with Good Genes is clearly the only approach that will work. Moreover, according to some, it's by far the quickest, and re-queening can change the temperament of a colony for the better within an hour.

That last bit begs a question. Given we know that the genes are the blueprint for new bees, and that constructing a new bee takes about three weeks, if the answer was in the genes, you'd expect a colony's temperament to change substantially after about six weeks, rather than an hour. The answer to that is that life is complicated, and that queens put out a bunch of pheromones, and that a gentle queen gives out especially gentle ones, that turn even grumpy workers into stripey little angels in no time flat.

But wait. We know the temperament of a colony can change from week to week, even when there's no queen at all, and get better even with the same queen. So perhaps, as in other areas of life, pinning the blame on poor breeding, or the single parent, isn't quite as sensible as it seems.

There are a few things we definitely know can provoke bees into grumpy behaviour. Poor weather, clumsy beekeeping, the threat of robbing and competition for forage can all affect colonies. It's possible that other stress factors, such as hive congestion or disease, might be involved (as well as high levels of grumpiness, there's also a lot of sacbrood about, though it's not necessarily related). So how is it that changing the queen, which does nothing for dexterity, security, competition, weather and isn't likely to immediately affect the health of a whole colony, always has such a good effect?

When a queen is changed, it's not just the genes in the eggs she lays that are different. It's the strength and mixture of pheromones that she produces. And pheromones, together with a bunch of other olfactory stimuli (smells) in and out of the hive have a powerful influence on bees, especially regarding grumpiness. We can see this, according to some, when we use smoke to calm bees or to mask the smell of a stung finger.

QMP (queen mandibular pheromone) is one queen pheromone, and arguably the most important. It seems to do a lot of different things, such as suppressing ovary development in workers, and, in the lab at least, can reduce "aversive learning" in young honeybees – i.e. the learning of a sting response to certain odours (1). And that looks like a clue. Especially if we remember that, even in the grumpiest colony, most of the bees don't follow or sting at all, and those that do vary a lot in their aggressiveness. According to a 2010 paper (2)

*"there is substantial variation in worker attraction to QMP among individuals, and that this variation is linked with specific differences in physiology and brain gene expression patterns"* – so not genes, exactly, but more the combinations of genes that are turned on and off at a given time, something varies from worker to worker, and can change through a worker's life. All of which suggests aggressiveness isn't necessarily instinctive or inherited, but something more subtle, and not entirely dependent on the queen. This doesn't explain why re-queening works, but we know a queen gives out a bunch of different pheromones, and perhaps it's less the new queen than the period of queenlessness (you need to remove the old queen a few days before introducing a new one) that 'resets' the behaviour of the workers, and makes them behave much better when the new queen is added.

In that case, grumpiness is as much to do with the way the workers have adapted to react to different things as it is to do with the queen herself. And, if that's so, then might a shook swarm be as good a way of dealing with a newly aggressive colony as re-queening? Shook swarming, like swarming in general, does seem to force the bees to adopt different roles in the hive, with the foragers (notoriously grumpy) having to play at house bees again for a while, and that might be just what they need to 'reset' their aggressive response.

I've certainly heard of shook-swarmed colonies becoming nicer. That could just be a short-term effect while the colony has little to defend, but maybe, if you find your bees have turned grumpy and you've no spare queen to hand, and aren't in a public space, a shook-swarm might be worth trying. Especially if the only other advice is to destroy them.

- (1) Vergoz V<sup>1</sup>, Schreurs HA, Mercer AR (2007) Queen pheromone blocks aversive learning in young worker bees. *Science*. 2007 Jul 20;317(5836):384-6.
- (2) Kocher SD, Ayroles JF, Stone EA, Grozinger CM (2010) Individual Variation in Pheromone Response Correlates with Reproductive Traits and Brain Gene Expression in Worker Honey Bees. *PLoS ONE* 5(2): e9116. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0009116

## Adventures in Beeland: A tale of two queens

Emily Heath's guest article from her excellent <http://adventuresinbeeland.com/blog>.

After a gloriously hot Friday, it was disappointing to be making my way to the apiary in rain on Saturday afternoon. Luckily the rain soon cleared and even turned to sunshine later, leaving Emma and I free to inspect our five hives.

A bee came to inspect our smoker, so Emma removed her before she got overheated.



Inside the hives all was well. The new queens have started laying in our two new unnamed colonies, formed from artificial swarms on Chilli and Chamomile's hives on 10th May. This is good, but we still have a lot of decisions ahead as five hives are too much for us. We are likely to sell one or two later in the summer, or possibly combine colonies. After inspecting Myrtle's hive too, and putting a super on top, we stopped for a tea break.

My cousin Joanna gave me some bucks fizz marmalade for our wedding, so I had brought along a marmalade cake to keep our energy levels up. It's a bit nutty, a bit spicy and of course orangey.



After tea and cake Freddie and Emma inspected Chilli and Chamomile's colonies. I was distracted by Jonesie's hive as he had

discovered gazillions of queen cells in there, all containing a larvae and unsealed. As the cells were all unsealed we expected the colony had not swarmed yet and went through looking for the queen. Four times we went through checking every frame, the bottom of the box and super too, in case she was slimmed down for swarming and had got through the queen excluder.

Considering she was marked and had been seen a week ago with her mark on, we came to the conclusion that she wasn't in the hive. Although it is unusual for a colony to swarm before queen cells are sealed, perhaps the spectacular weather on Friday encouraged them to get going. Jonesie decided to take most of the queen cells down and leave a couple, to reduce the likelihood of further cast swarms from the already depleted colony.



Tom found a queen cell in his hive too. He has been noticing a lot of queen cells at the top and middle of frames this year, instead of at the bottom as queen cells often are. Has anyone else been experiencing this?



Here's Jonesie holding up one of his foundationless frames. It's interesting to see how the bees begin building. To produce wax, worker bees older than 10-12 days old eat nectar and hang in chains; this raises their body temperature and causes their eight wax glands on the underside of their abdomens to secrete tiny flakes of wax. They then chew the wax and



manipulate it into the precise shapes of comb using their mandibles and forelegs.



After all the inspecting was done Tom and I stopped by at his hive in Hanwell on the way home. There I was lucky enough to see the rare sight of two queens in one hive.

Here's mum...



And here's her new blonder daughter. I've added little crowns to help you spot them :)



Now you have to find them on your own...



I've heard bee inspectors say two queens in a hive is commoner than most beekeepers think. Often beekeepers will be looking for one queen and stop looking for others once they see her. When superseding the old queen it makes sense for the colony to keep her around until her new daughter queen has got into the swing of laying.

A lovely end to a day of inspecting!

## Upcoming events

### Sunday 13th July: Monthly meeting: Queen rearing for the small-scale beekeeper

*11:00-12:00 at Fairley House Junior School, 220 Lambeth Rd, London SE1 7JY*

How to go about queen rearing. Followed by chat with coffee and cake. Followed by chat with coffee and biscuits. Members only - non-members who'd like to find out more about LBKA can email us.

### Sunday, 20th July: Brompton Cemetery Open Day

*All day at Brompton Cemetery, Fulham Rd, London, SW10 9UG.*

Come and see our stand at the Brompton Cemetery Open Day, where we hope to have some honey to sell from members.

### Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th July: Lambeth Country Show

*All day at Brockwell Park, Dulwich Rd, London, SE24 0PA.*

Come and see our stand at the Lambeth Country Show, where we hope to have some honey to sell from members.



## Committee

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with a member of the committee if you have any questions, requests, suggestions (and offers of help!), but remember that we are all volunteers with busy lives. We are **Karin Courtman** (chair; chair@lbka.org.uk), **Jon Harris** (treasurer; treasurer@lbka.org.uk), **David Hankins** (secretary; admin@lbka.org.uk); **Howard Nichols** (education; education@lbka.org.uk), **Aidan Slingsby** (members' services and web; services@lbka.org.uk and webmaster@lbka.org.uk), **David Hankins** (membership secretary; membership@lbka.org.uk), **Richard Glassborow** (apiaries' manager; apiaries@lbka.org.uk) and **Mark Patterson** (forage officer; forage@lbka.org.uk). **Our website is <http://www.lbka.org.uk/>.**