



# The London Beekeepers' Association

# LBKA News

## July, 2020

This month's newsletter is a little lighter than usual, but thanks to Sally for offering regular examples of her wonderful "more than honey bees" photographs of other insects. This month's meeting will see us debating the London Bee Situation and discussing the position that LBKA should take on it. Do try to join us via Zoom on Sunday, by using the Zoom invitation in the Newsletter e-mail. See Simon's useful piece on page 5 and the additional information in your email. Thanks to regular contributors Richard (p1), Howard (6), Mark (7) for their contributions and Martin for proof-reading.

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A big thank you to this month's contributors: **Richard Glassborow, Sally Haywill, Martin Hudson, Howard Nichols, Mark Patterson and Simon Saville.** Would you like to join these esteemed contributors? If so, do contact me.

Happy beekeeping.

Aidan Slingsby, Editor, [services@lbka.org.uk](mailto:services@lbka.org.uk)

## From our Chair

At the Monthly Meeting on Sunday (12th July) we are going to debate the London Bee Situation Report currently with you for review.

We have had several responses from members in the past few weeks and many of the points made are summarised in Simon Saville's article on page 5. Perhaps not surprisingly (this is a beekeeping club after all) the responses reveal different understandings, concerns and priorities on issues raised but they are all well considered, constructive and reveal a great deal of care and concern for beekeeping in London. In other words, whatever differences there may be, there is also much common interest.

Hopefully, this sense of shared interest will continue to allow us to respect differences of opinion when we debate the issues on Sunday. The purpose of the debate is after all not a question of "taking sides" or "winning" but one of reaching a shared, evidence-based, informed understanding of the "London bee situation" that leads on to a win for us all.

Some of the feedback we have received has led us to



Honey bee on passion flower. Photo: Eugene McConville.

realise that in compiling the report we failed to properly explain the motive.

There is no doubt, beekeeping enjoys considerable public interest and support, but neither can be taken for granted. Some of us are aware of negative issues, including amongst the beekeeping community, and there is potential for the tide to turn. It's already in the zeitgeist and there is potential for a turn to be quite imminent. This could result in:

- Negative public attitudes towards urban beekeeping (in particular, negative press )
- Regulation
- A ban on urban beekeeping in London

So, our overall objective is for responsible beekeeping in London to be sustainable (i.e. for the practice to be able to continue for the foreseeable future)

We had envisaged a 3 step process, step one being no more than accepting the report. But we can see from responses there is an inexorable segue from 1 to 2 to 3 and it seems sensible to consider the progression from the start even if the process unfolds over time.

Step 1: Do we accept, notwithstanding all the imperfections in supporting data, the report is a fair enough account of the situation?

Step 2: If we do accept the report is fair enough, what is our position on beekeeping in London? Where do we London Beekeepers sit on the spectrum between the honeybee equivalent of intensive agriculture and wildlife conservation?

Step 3: What is to be done (if anything)?

So on Sunday we will discuss all 3 levels but the business of the day is to reach an understanding on Step 1.

It is in part self-interest. In many ways we are already where we want to be and already doing the things we need to do. But we do need to be more confident and assured if we are to raise public awareness, lead by example, and show good reason why beekeeping in London should continue. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on Sunday.

Stay well.

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## Announcements

**This is our official place for announcements.** If you only read one section of the newsletter, it should be this one!



*"More than just honey bees": Figwort Sawfly (Tenthredinidae). Photo by Sally Haywill*

## July's online Monthly Meeting and Pub Social

**The London Bee Situation** will be the topic of July's Monthly Meeting, on **Sunday 12th June** at **11:00** via Zoom. Listen and have your say in shaping LBKA's position on beekeeping in London. See page 5 for more details. Members will have the **Zoom link to join in their email** (contact [services@lbka.org.uk](mailto:services@lbka.org.uk) if you don't). Supply your own coffee and cake!

Our **Pub Social** will be via **Zoom** again on **Tuesday 28th July** from 18:30.

## We need a new resources officer

Our resources officer is relocating, so will be stepping down from the role. We thank him for his help and for his proactive work creating an accurate inventory amongst other things.

We need a new resources officer! The person would oversee maintaining and hiring out LBKA equipment. Our equipment is stored at Big Yellow in Stewarts Road



*"More than just honey bees": Love in the long grass, 2 Small White Butterflies (Pieris rapae)? Photo by Sally Haywill*

(SW8 4UB), so living close to there would be helpful. You wouldn't need to join the committee, but we would be able to co-opt you if appropriate. Please speak to any committee member if you're interested.

## Help needed with our Social Media

We need a hand with our various social media outputs and would love to talk to you, particularly if you're able to help and have experience in this area. Please contact Aidan at [services@lbka.org.uk](mailto:services@lbka.org.uk).

## Want to be photographed?

Jack is portrait photographer based in Charlton (SE7) with a fascination with beekeeping. He would like to photograph a series of beekeepers for his portfolio, particularly London based beekeepers (of course, either adhering to physical distancing advice or waiting until it is no longer necessary). See his work on [his website](#) and contact him on [jackcmcguire@gmail.com](mailto:jackcmcguire@gmail.com).

## Maintaining beekeeping networks

Beekeeping is much easier when there is a local network who keep in touch and help each other out. This is why beekeeping associations are organised into local branches.

This is even more important during the current COVID-19 pandemic, whilst – of course – adhering to UK Government rules on social distancing. For example, some members – if self-isolating or otherwise incapacitated – may not be able to inspect and attend to their bees on

a regular basis, especially if their bees are located at an out-apiary. It may be appropriate to have contingencies in place in such cases. Let us know if you can help, or the follow the suggestions below.

LBKA encourages and tries to facilitate members forming local networks. Ways of doing so include:

- **Bee Banter:** Being on the 'Bee Banter' WhatsApp group or members-only Facebook page or offering and asking for help when needed.
- **Sharing contact details:** Seeing [details of members](#) who've "opted-in" to share their contact details. If you want to opt-in, you can now do so in the [members' area](#)
- Maintaining contact with former mentors or mentees, if applicable.

The [members' area](#) on the website has more details. Email us if you need any help and we'll see what we can do.

## Honey for sale?

Ask [service@lbka.org.uk](mailto:service@lbka.org.uk) if you'd like it to be added to [our honey page](#).

## Old announcements from June

Check our [previous newsletters](#) or contact [services@lbka.org.uk](mailto:services@lbka.org.uk) for more details.

**Help needed at our East London apiary:** email [apiaries@lbka.org.uk](mailto:apiaries@lbka.org.uk) if you might be able to help.

**Summer lecture programme.** Advanced Beekeeping Courses have a **summer webinar programme** by Ken



*"More than just honey bees": It's Batman again? The hoverfly *Chrysotoxum arcuatum* I reckon. Photo by Sally Haywill*

and Dan Basterfield on specialist topics. [See the programme here.](#)

**Bee part of the A-Team.** If you'd like to be part of LBKA's [Asian Hornet Action Team](#), contact Elliot on [mentor@lbka.org.uk](mailto:mentor@lbka.org.uk).

### Do you have any announcements?

If you've any announcements for the next issue of LBKA News, please send to Aidan at [services@lbka.org.uk](mailto:services@lbka.org.uk).



*"More than just honey bees": A Small Skipper (*Thymelicus sylvester*; top) and a Meadow Brown Butterfly (*Maniola jurtina*, bottom), in the orchard of Lordship Rec, N17. Photo by Sally Haywill*

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## July's Committee meeting

Here, we keep you up to date with what the committee discuss at our monthly committee meetings (and what keeps us awake at night). Let us know if you can help or have any suggestions that might help.

*Aidan Slingsby*  
[services@lbka.org.uk](mailto:services@lbka.org.uk)

This month, most of the committee meeting was devoted to discussion of The London Bee Situation by committee members to prepare for this Sunday's discussion for members.

Other than that, David agreed to coordinate the Winter



www.nonnativespecies.org

Produced by Lucy Curran, Claf Bony (NNS), Guy Martin, Mia Brown (National Bee Unit) with assistance from Colette O'Hara, National Biodiversity Data Centre (Ireland) Stuart Roberts (BKAUK)

## Asian Hornet

Alert!

Report sightings of this species to: [alertnonnative@ceh.ac.uk](mailto:alertnonnative@ceh.ac.uk)

**Species Description**


**Scientific name:** *Vespa velutina*  
**AKA:** Yellow-legged Hornet  
**Native to:** Asia  
**Habitat:** Nests usually high in trees and man made structures, sometimes closer to the ground; hunts honey bees, other insects and also feeds on fruit and flowers.

Not easily confused with any other species. Dark brown or black velvety body. Characteristically dark abdomen and yellow tipped legs. Smaller than the native European Hornet.

Introduced to France in 2004 where it has spread rapidly. In 2016 the first UK sighting was confirmed in Gloucestershire. High possibility of introduction through, for example, soil associated with imported plants, cut flowers, fruit, garden items (furniture, plant pots), freight containers, or kiln untreated timber. The possibility that it could fly across the Channel has not been ruled out.

A highly aggressive predator of native insects. Poses a significant threat to honey bees and other pollinators.


Do not disturb an active nest. Members of the public who suspect they have found an Asian Hornet should send a photo to [alertnonnative@ceh.ac.uk](mailto:alertnonnative@ceh.ac.uk).



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**Key ID Features**

**Asian Hornet Queen**




Queens up to 30mm long, workers up to 25mm long

Entirely dark brown or black when fully developed with a fine yellow band


Legs brown with characteristic yellow ends

Photos from: J. Haszard, Rachel Scopes and Nigel Jones, Richard Bell


Asian Hornet



European Hornet



Asian Hornet abdomen is almost entirely dark except for 4th abdominal segment




Asian hornet 'hovering' for honey bees prey

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**Similar Species**

**Asian hornet (*Vespa velutina*) for comparison**


- Queen up to 30mm long, worker up to 25mm long
- Legs yellow at the ends
- Dark brown / black abdomen with a yellow / orange band on 4th segment
- Head dark from above, orange from front
- Dark coloured antennae
- Entirely black velvety thorax
- Never active at night



Actual size

**European hornet (*Vespa crabro*)**

- Queen up to 30mm long, worker up to 30mm long
- Legs brown at the ends
- Yellow abdomen marked with brown on the upper part, not banded
- Head yellow from above, yellow from front
- Yellow antennae
- Thorax black with extensive brown markings
- May be active at night




Actual size

Roger Burgess

**Giant woodwasp (*Ducerus gigas*)**

- Larger than Asian hornet, female up to 45mm long
- Legs yellow
- Distinctive yellow and black banded abdomen
- Long cylindrical body unlike Asian hornet which has an obvious waist
- Long yellow antennae
- Female has an obvious long sting-like appendage (ovipositor) which it uses to lay eggs in trees




Actual size

© Rhone

**Hornet mimic hoverfly (*Vilurcilla zonaria*)**

- Abdomen has more yellow stripes than Asian hornet
- Legs darker than Asian hornets
- Only one pair of wings (hornets and wasps have two pairs)
- Large, globular eyes




Actual size

Dider Deconens

**Median wasp (*Dolichovespula media*)**

- More extensive yellow and orange colouration on abdominal segments than Asian hornet
- Yellow markings on thorax unlike Asian hornet




Actual size

© Rhone

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**Field Signs**

Active April-November (peak August/September). Mated queens over winter singly or in groups, in various natural and man-made harbours – underneath tree bark in cavities left by beetle larvae, in soil, on ceramic plant pots – potentially any small, well-insulated refuge. Makes very large nests in tall trees in urban and rural areas, but avoids pure stands of conifers. Will use man made structures (garages, sheds etc.) as nesting sites.



For more information visit:  
[www.nonnativespecies.org](http://www.nonnativespecies.org)  
[www.nationalbeehiveunit.com](http://www.nationalbeehiveunit.com)

Alert!

Report sightings of this species to:  
[alertnonnative@ceh.ac.uk](mailto:alertnonnative@ceh.ac.uk)

Lectures, which – if online – might allow us to look a bit further afield for speakers than usual.

Finally, Mark McDonnell will be relocating, so will be stepping down from being resources officer and the committee. The committee thank him for his help and generosity with his time.

## London Bee Situation

*Simon Saville*  
[development@lbka.org.uk](mailto:development@lbka.org.uk)

We shared a Report on the London Bee Situation with the last Newsletter. This article summarises the feedback from members we have had so far. Richard Glassborow further clarifies the background and context for the report in his “from the Chair” column in this NewsLetter and, together, we hope these two articles help further prepare members and stimulate a good discussion when we present the topic at the Monthly Meeting on Sun 12th July.

As a reminder, the Report sets out the facts as we know them relating to bees and forage in London. It is not seeking to tell members what to do; rather to help them make informed decisions about bees and beekeeping in London. A link to the report is in your email.

The Report shows that the number of registered honey bee colonies in London has doubled in the last 8 years, with no signs of this increase slowing down. The distribution of colonies is highly variable, but there are more in central London. Some areas have very few colonies, but there are “hot spots” where there are more than 30 colonies in a 1-km square.

The amount of forage in London is also highly variable, but as expected there tends to be much less in central London. The data we have from GiGL is from 2009, and it shows an average of 4 hectares of good forage per square km (= 4% coverage). We don't think that the forage situation has improved since then, as there are regular reports of the loss of green space in London.

This obviously raises questions, for example:

- Is a high colony density bad for honey bees themselves? Does a shortage of forage lead to weaker colonies? Does stress related to high densities make bees more susceptible to pathogens?
- Can pests and diseases spread more easily between colonies located near each other? Is this related to the current outbreak of EFB and AFB in parts of London?

Asian Hornet Identification leaflet. Source: *BBKA website*.

- There is emerging evidence that honey bee pathogens might affect wild bees, and that honey bees compete with other bees for nectar and especially pollen.

Feedback from members has included – note that these are not LBKA positions:

*“Need to be clear/bold: honey bees **do** compete with other pollinators (and lack of research on impact shouldn't stop us saying it)”*

*“Data is not clear enough and is presented in a way in which conclusions may be incorrectly inferred. GIGL data is over ten years old.”*

*“Are LBKA members noticing any increase in starving colonies or reduction in colony numbers as a result of this apparent lack of forage?”*

*“Need to shift the narrative **away** from the “save the honeybee” misinformed narrative which is driving further increase in honey bees in London”*

*“Need to be careful with the message. LBKA needs to remain an association of and for amateur beekeeping and should avoid saying there are too many bees”*

*“Pre-empting more regulations in London may end up accelerating that agenda”*

*“**Amateur** beekeepers (are) not trying to save bees or the planet (and not) putting pressure on the environment”*

*“Hobbyists and community projects (only) need enough colonies to keep us fascinated and to educate those around us. We could manage smaller honey harvests and a marginally higher rate of loss. It shouldn't all be about big productive colonies”*

*“Planting flowers alone won't solve the problem where colony density exceeds available forage. Better education needed as there is no regulation.”*

*“Encouraging planting of quality forage in London including lobbying of local councils and decision makers, education of interested members of the public, more advanced education of our members, and managing of swarms in the urban environment”*

*“Apiaries with many colonies in London where availability of forage to colony density is low should be discouraged”*

*“Encourage bee watching versus beekeeping”*

*“Beekeeping associations within the M25 should stop advertising and promoting beekeeping courses. Large companies (should) stop ticking their green boxes by encouraging rooftop apiaries”*

*“Where is public opinion going? Who's driving it? Could LBKA end up on the wrong side of it?”*

*“Is conventional beekeeping in tension with some environmental objectives?”*

*“How far do we go in discouraging more colonies?”*

LBKA's approach so far has been to encourage responsible Urban Beekeeping in London, [having developed specific guidelines](#). We also try to engender a better public understanding of bees, based on an accurate, evidence-based narrative of bees in London. We use honey bees as a window onto wildlife (e.g. the School Food Matters project). We promote our “Bees and flowers go together” initiative, and do what we can to encourage the improvement of natural habitats for bees and Londoners (e.g. Pollinator Fund).

This could involve:

- Planting more forage (of the right type) – “green your garden”
- Increasing wild areas of gardens and parks
- Preventing loss of green space to development
- Not paving over drives, build a patio over the lawn, or using false turf
- This will help other bees and pollinators as well

We remind people that adding more honey bee colonies does not necessarily help honey bees!

Please attend the Monthly Meeting on Sunday 12th July (by Zoom) and come prepared to share your views and ask questions on these topics.

Ultimately, LBKA is a member organisation, and we will listen to members as we consider future actions.

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## July in the Apiary

Where we should be with our colonies at this time of year.

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

July beekeeping work has 2 distinct parts. These are dealing with the early July nectar flow then, at the end of the month, removal of honey. At the time of writing the nectar flow in my area of South London is underway at the time of writing on 1 July.

During May and June the bees utilise this time to build up their numbers and to swarm. There is now a lot less inclination to swarm and the bees direct their attention towards capturing the flowing nectar from the summer flowers. When they do this then supers can fill quickly

and it is important that the beekeeper has sufficient frames and supers in advance of the flow. There will not be time to buy extra supers and to make up frames. Nor can the beekeeper extract the honey and return the super to the same colony as the honey is unlikely to be ripened until after the flow ceases.

## Nectar flow

Exact timing of the nectar flow depends upon weather and locality but is usually mid June and early July in London.

**How do I know when it has started?** The coming and going at the colony entrance becomes a lot more purposeful when the nectar flow starts, bees leave the hive entrance in a determined and focussed way. They have the appearance of knowing exactly what they are doing and where they are going. As the nectar flow progresses then, of course, the supers also become heavier but, by this time, the flow is well underway.

**Adding supers.** Regular inspections are still needed but the beekeeper's attention should now be directed towards checking there is enough room in the supers. A cursory glance in the top super should be sufficient. When the frames in the top super are covered with bees then it is time to add another. Some beekeepers move the frames around a little by putting 2 combs of honey and/or nectar into the newly added top super to encourage bees to continue onwards and upwards. Others are against this practice as the bees would not do this themselves. The nectar flow can also be used to draw out new combs from foundation.

## Removing honey from the hive

A comb of honey should only be removed when it is at least 75% sealed by the bees. This is to avoid fermentation of the final product. There are several methods of clearing bees from the supers. These can be grouped into physical methods (bee escapes, etc), chemical methods (repellents available for purchase from bee equipment suppliers) and mechanical methods (blowers which blow the bees off the frames). Some beekeepers have concerns relating to the use of chemicals and mechanical methods are more akin to commercial beekeeping, not hobbyists. Therefore I have only detailed the physical methods here. The 2 most common physical methods are Porter bee escapes and shaking the bees off the frames.

**Porter bee escapes.** Most of us use Porter bee escapes incorporated into a clearing board. This works well provided they are used properly and the metal spring escapes are clean, not stuck with propolis. After about 48 hours most of the bees have gone down through the one-way valve and there are relatively few bees in the super. Better to use a clearing board with 2 bee escapes. If 1 malfunctions then the other is still in use. (A clearing board is just another name for a crown board with the 2 escape holes, it is not a different piece

of equipment.) Make sure there is plenty of space for the bees below the supers. This is done by inserting another empty super with frames below to house the bees.

**Shake and brush.** Another method is shaking the individual frames to remove as many bees as possible then brushing off the remainder. An extra super is needed to hold the shaken frames and this should be placed on the upturned hive roof and covered with a sheet or large cloth. This method causes a certain amount of disturbance to the bees and may not be suitable for a hive which is in close proximity to people. Its advantage is that it is quick and only involves 1 visit to the apiary.

## Other action to be taken this month

**Swarming urge reduced.** Now the nectar flow has started then most colonies abandon the idea of swarming as it is not now in their interests to do so. There is still a risk of swarming and this is increased if the bees do not have enough room to store nectar. Another reason to ensure that enough supers are on the hive.

**Disease inspection.** The nectar flow is a golden opportunity to undertake a brood disease inspection. As the bees are so busy with the nectar they have little time to remove dead larvae until it ceases. Leaving the brood disease inspection until autumn may leave insufficient time to take corrective action. Optimum times for a specific brood disease inspection are early spring and in summer whilst the nectar flow is in progress. Now is the time.

**Reduce colony entrances.** Reduce colony entrances when the nectar flow ceases to minimise robbing.

**Varroa treatment.** Plan your varroa treatment for next month. Decide your strategy and buy any supplies you will need.

**Book your extractor** Make arrangements for your use of an extractor next month if you do not have your own.

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## Focus on Forage

This article is from a couple of years ago.

Mark Patterson  
[forage@lbka.org.uk](mailto:forage@lbka.org.uk)

As we pass from June into July, all our hopes for a decent harvest now rely upon the **Lime** trees. Limes



Privet

are blooming. There are 3 species of limes native to the UK: Large Leaved Lime (*Tilia platyphyllos*), Small Leaved Lime (*Tilia cordata*) and a naturally occurring hybrid of the before mentioned two (*Tilia × europaea*). The small leaved Lime is common throughout England but in the south west it is largely replaced by the large leaved lime which thrives better on the lime-rich soils.

Be aware of the Silver Lime (*Tilia tormentosa*) which is an exotic introduction and flowers a bit later than our native limes. Its nectar is toxic to bees and when there is a dearth in forage the bees may mistakenly collect its nectar and in the process become intoxicated before falling comatose beneath the tree.

Limes are capable of producing copious volumes of nectar but only if the weather conditions are just right. High soil moisture content from spring rains followed by very warm sultry weather is needed to trigger a good Lime flow.

Lime honey is highly sought after as it has a minty aftertaste and tangy tone to it. It's also high in fructose sugars and low in glucose meaning it stays liquid for a long time and resists crystallisation prolonging its shelf life and makes an attractive looking jar of honey for the sales stall.

We are fortunate in urban areas to have an abundance of lime trees growing in our parks and street sides. In London limes represent our biggest potential for a bumper honey crop but as mentioned earlier this only becomes a reality when the weather conditions come



Bird's Foot Trefoil

together at the right time. During a strong lime flow a healthy colony of honey bees can fill a super in a matter of days so it's important you have spare boxes at the ready.

Other plants which are important for our bees this month include **bramble** which should now be in peak flower. Like lime nectar, bramble is mostly fructose which leads to a light fruity honey which seldom crystallises. I am lucky that all my apiaries are bordering over ground railway lines which have an abundance of bramble growing along the sidings.

Around water and damp ground **Himalayan Balsam** is now flowering and will continue to do so right up until late August. Balsam is loved by many Beekeepers for its flowers providing forage in bulk at a time when there is often little else around. It's a contentious plant though, being a non-native plant and highly invasive. It's listed under schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 as illegal to plant, knowingly aiding it, or allowing it to spread. The penalty if found guilty can exceed a £5000 fine and a criminal record. So please beware of those beekeepers on Internet forums advocating its spread as a plant good for bees! Far better plants suited to damp ground include Water Mint, Purple Loosestrife and Hemp Agrimony which are all loved by bees.

Other good sources of forage joining the summer flow this month include **Tree of Heaven** (*Ailanthus altissima*), **Indian Chestnut** (*Aesculus indica*), **Chinese Privet tree** (*Ligustrum sinense*) and **Indian bean tree** (*Catalpa Bignoniodes*). All are abundant in urban parks and provide pollen and nectar after all our native trees have ceased flowering. Last year one of our members in north London had their honey analysed by a forensics lab and most of the pollen was from Tree of Heaven.

In urban areas shrubs including **Choisya**, **Cotoneaster**, **Privet**, **Philadelphus**, **Escalonia**, **Abelia**, **Santolina** and **Hebe** will continue to attract bees.

**Elder** is just coming to an end along with **Dog Rose**





*Frank's hive stands.*

meaning few native shrubs continue to flower into July.

As July progresses our bees become more and more reliant on ground level flora for their forage. Wildflowers like **Bugloss**, **Birds Foot Trefoil**, **Vetches**, **Knapweeds**, **Thistle**, **wild Thyme**, **wild Marjoram**, **Scabious**, **Teasel** and **Umbellifers**. Plants which many of us associate as 'weeds' and try our best to eradicate are often plants important to bees in high summer – among them **Ragwort**.

July and August are the months of the year when most Beekeepers remove their honey harvest but it is also the time of year when our honey bees are flying the furthest to find profitable flower patches. Research undertaken at Sussex University has shown that during July and August Honey Bees are regularly flying as far as 12 km away to forage and their decoded waggle dances indicated that the bees were making a bee line for nearby towns and villages where they can find abundant blooms in our domestic gardens.

We can all help make life a little easier for the bees in late summer by making better plant selections in our gardens. You can find planting suggestions on my website <http://www.apicultural.co.uk/> along with some good suggestions for plants suitable for balconies and window boxes.

**Frank Ryan:** I make beehive stands from strong premium-grade materials, painted an attractive holly colour using bee-friendly paint. Each stand is made to measure a for comfortable working height and has the option to expand from a single stand to a double. The dimension allow for ratchet-strapping. Contact Frank on 07877388933 or [frankryan60@hotmail.com](mailto:frankryan60@hotmail.com).

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## Upcoming events

### Sunday 12th July: Monthly meeting: The London Bee Situation

*11:00-13:00 at via Zoom (see your email for a link)*

This month will be about the London Bee Situation. London has a high density of honey bee colonies. We will be considering the impacts of this on London, Londoners, the environment and wildlife. We will have a discussion about our online report on the issues. Bring your own coffee and cake!

### Tuesday, 28th July: Pub Social

*18:30 onwards at via Zoom (see your email for a link)*

Our third ONLINE pub social in the historical surroundings of your own home. Bring your own beer. See email for a link.

### Sunday 9th August: Monthly meeting: Pollen, Pollination and Social

*11:00-13:00 at via Zoom (see your email for a link)*

This month will be about pollen and pollination, led by Vlad Zamfir. Members only. Bring your own coffee and cake!

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## Members' marketplace

This section is for members offering beekeeping items or services to members or requesting items. Items could include nucs, wax and honey. Email [services@lbka.org.uk](mailto:services@lbka.org.uk) to add something here.

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## Committee

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with a member of the committee if you have any questions, requests, suggestions. We are:

- **Chair:** Richard Glassborow, [chair@lbka.org.uk](mailto:chair@lbka.org.uk)
- **Treasurer:** David Hankins, [treasurer@lbka.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@lbka.org.uk)
- **Secretary:** Natalie Cotton, [admin@lbka.org.uk](mailto:admin@lbka.org.uk)
- **Education:** Howard Nichols [education@lbka.org.uk](mailto:education@lbka.org.uk)
- **Membership:** Aidan Slingsby, [services@lbka.org.uk](mailto:services@lbka.org.uk)
- **Apiaries:** Tristram Sutton, [apiaries@lbka.org.uk](mailto:apiaries@lbka.org.uk)
- **Development:** Simon Saville, [development@lbka.org.uk](mailto:development@lbka.org.uk)
- **Mentoring:** Elliot Hodges, [mentor@lbka.org.uk](mailto:mentor@lbka.org.uk)
- **Events:** Martin Hudson, [events@lbka.org.uk](mailto:events@lbka.org.uk)
- **Resources:** Mark McDonnell, [resources@lbka.org.uk](mailto:resources@lbka.org.uk)

Our website is <http://www.lbka.org.uk/> and the pictures are in the same order as the names above.

