



BUZZWORD

August 2022

The Newsletter of the
Norfolk Beekeepers' Association

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Next issue in October

All articles, events and things of interest to the beekeeping world should be sent to the Editor by **30th September 2022** at:

buzzwordnbka@gmail.com

Chairman's Buzzwords

Trevor Nash

We will soon be preparing to get our bees ready for winter. How quickly the year seems to have gone! On August 13th we will be doing a closing down demo at our apiary in Coston. I hope to see some of you there at this event.

This year we have been able to commence our bulk buying scheme and purchased honey jars at a very competitive price. More on this is in our secretary's report.

It was good to meet up again at the Royal Norfolk Show for the first time in 2 years. We were privileged to have a visit by HRH Princess Anne to our stand and presented her with some honey from our apiary. Perhaps we may get a royal warrant!! More on the show is in our Show Secretary's report (p2).

We had a good attendance at the 'Introduction to Beekeeping Day' at our apiary on July 16th. Eleven people came who were looking into keeping bees for the first time. Hopefully, most of these people will become new members as they showed a lot of interest in keeping bees and were keen to get involved in the courses we will be holding next year at our teaching apiary. Details of these courses will be sent out in the next few weeks.

We will also be holding our President's Evening again this year after a 2-year absence. This will be at the village hall at Felthorpe on November 18th. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at this event.

Best wishes to you all.

Trevor (chairnbka@gmail.com)



Please note: the apiary demo (closing up) scheduled for 6th August is now 13th August, at the NBKA Apiary, Coston.

Bees in the news

How To Inspect Bees In A Heatwave: sound advice on how to cope in hot weather. <https://bit.ly/3QsAKA6>

Liquid Gold: Beekeeping documentary wins an Emmy: The University of Alabama's Center for Public Television and Radio, in collaboration with WVUA 23, won an Emmy for their short documentary about WVUA 23's Chief Meteorologist Richard Scott and his beekeeping hobby. <https://bit.ly/3QfkVx8>

I spent £180 on a ventilated bee-suit: keeping cool at work: While many of us have the option to seek cover in the shade, others are tasked with spending their working week under the glare of the sun, leading to some innovative ways of keeping cool. <https://bbc.in/3djdTbZ>

What is the varroa mite and does it pose a threat? The deadly parasite that sent NSW into bee lockdown. It's our old 'friend' again but see how it caused a justified panic in Australia. <https://bit.ly/3JFIPPA>

The Royal Norfolk Show (29th and 30th June)

Pat Marshall, Show Secretary

Can I first thank the wonderful members who helped over the days of the show. This included set-up on the Sunday and Tuesday, then the two show days together with the clearing up on Thursday evening and Friday morning.

For many years we have had the stand nearest to the Norwich gate, with the “bug hut” all set up. This year, the Royal Norfolk Agricultural Association (RNAA), who run the show, moved us to the “Countryside” area and removed the bug hut. When we turned up on Sunday morning we found it challenging and didn’t know where to start. By the time we had finished we were quite happy that we had done the best we could with what we had. Despite the display area being smaller, our President had put together a lovely display of pollination.

Honey show entries and judging

By the time we left on Tuesday evening we had over 200 entries in the various categories for the honey show, which was the most we had received for over 15 years. Several members entering for the first time was very encouraging. We also had a few members selling honey for the first time, having spent time putting show honey, mead and wax entries together.

Our helpers on the two show days worked really well together and helped wherever they could to muck in, a



Our judge, David Shannon, had a lovely day and thoroughly enjoyed being able to judge at a show again and particularly likes judging for us. Because of this he only asked for a small amount of expenses. (The results are shown opposite.)

Putting on a show

As for the logistics of the show – it was managed very well by us but was still a challenge. Collecting an entrance ticket via the George V gate worked well but there seemed to be little consistency on the gate security as some members were able to enter just by telling them where they were heading. Clearing up on the Thursday, some members were able to drive



HRH The Princess Royal meeting Paul Metcalf (President), Trevor Nash (Chairman) and Pat Marshall (Show Secretary) outside the NBKA marquee on the Wednesday of the show. She can be seen clutching a complimentary jar of honey.

straight on and others were stopped at the gates.

We were very grateful to Jill Tinsey and her mobility scooter for shuttling members' honey and even tired members back to the car park having had to walk from the Norwich gate car park.

The location was not where we would choose to be as the footfall was never going to be as good as being next to the Norwich gate. Despite that by mid-morning we had quite a lot of people in that area of the showground.

We now have to look at a way forward. A feedback meeting is taking place this week to discuss what can be offered by the RNAA to see what they are willing to offer us for future attendance at the show. This year because we had to hire a marquee we knew we would lose money but it was not as bad as we had expected.

Here's looking forward to the Autumn show at Coston on 22nd October. Thanks once again to all who helped at our summer show.

Pat, showsecretarynbka@gmail.com



Honey sales seemed to go well, aided by the innovation of a card reader.

Results of the Summer Honey Show

	First	Second	Third	Very highly commended
Members classes				
Light liquid honey	Mr & Mrs A Marshall	Chris Enders	Mr G Bowler	Mr N Adams
Medium or dark honey	Mr & Mrs A Marshall	Trevor Nash	John Watts	
Creamed or Granulated	Mr & Mrs A Marshall	Mr A Chapman	Mr G Bowler	
Novice class	Mr R Parker			
Retail class	Mr & Mrs A Marshall	Lynne Pettit	Mr R Parker	Mr J Watts
Composite	Mr & Mrs A Marshall		Lynne Pettit	
8oz cake of wax	Mr R Parker	Mrs J Tinsey	Mr N Bowden	Lynne Pettit
Honey cake made to recipe	Alex Tibenham	Lynne Pettit	Mr A Marshall	
Sweet Mead	Mr J Watts	Lynne Pettit	Nigel Bowden	
Dry Mead	Mr P Kidd	Mr J Watts	Mr R Parker	Mr N Bowden
Open Classes				
Light liquid honey	Mr & Mrs A Marshall	Lynne Pettit	Mr G Bowler	Kt Brewster
Medium or dark honey	Mr & Mrs A Marshall			
Creamed or Granulated	Mr & Mrs A Marshall			
Retail class	Mr J Watts	Mr & Mrs A Marshall	Mr N Bowden	
1lb cake of wax	Mr R Parker	Mrs J Tinsey	Mr N Bowden	Lynne Pettit
Six 1oz blocks of wax	Mr N Bowden	Mr R Parker	Mr J Tinsey	
Beeswax candle	Mrs J Tinsey	Lynne Pettit	Mr N Bowden	Mr R Parker
4oz sweets made with honey	Kt Brewster	Lynne Pettit		
Honey cake any recipe	Beth Marshall	Andrea Bartrum	Mr R Parker	
Photograph	Mr I Watkinson	Lynne Pettit	Andrea Bartrum	
Craft item relating to bees	Nigel Bowden			
Gift classes				
Liquid honey	Mr T Nash	Mr & Mrs A Marshall	Lynne Pettit	Nick Adams
Creamed or granulated honey	Mr & Mrs A Marshall	Mr P Kidd	Mr T Nash	



David Shannon, the official judge this year, shows some of the exacting standards that he uses to judge honey products. Shining a bright light through the mead to see if there is any cloudiness or bits and inspecting the top of the honey for any signs of imperfections or dust from the lid. Anyone who entered was very brave to put their skills under this much scrutiny.

The Secretary Matters

Garry Bowler



This is England so to start off let's say a few words about the weather. Now, what we love about our weather is the variety but, and I don't want it to seem as though I am complaining, why is it rarely "just right" for checking bees? Too windy, rain on the way, chilly winds, too hot, too sunny etc. etc. I get hot in shorts and a tee shirt whilst not doing much so put a bee suit on and I melt. As you can tell, I am not a great fan of what those who like it hot will love about the weather at the moment.

Your committee has been pretty busy recently with the preparations to register as a charity, the Norfolk Show, etc. so I hope you will forgive me for saying we have been feeling a bit stretched. Oh, and of course, we keep bees as well.

After much hard work, mostly by David King, NBKA is now a registered charity. All the preparation work paid off as the registration with the Charities Commission went through in a few days (they often take up to 12 weeks).

Pack-'em high, sell-'em cheap!

On July 5th we had NBKA's first attempt of bulk buying jars to pass on to members at the discounted price we were able to achieve. It went pretty well I think, a few tweaks being considered for how we will do the next one to help things go more smoothly. We have a reasonable stock of jars so we could hold another day fairly soon if there is sufficient demand. We are also considering other products such as fondant or Ambrosia syrup, but only when buying in quantity achieves significant savings, and will be looking into prices.

After the enforced layoff over the last 2 years, it was good to be able to get back to the Royal Norfolk Show, despite the changes that the Show organisers had forced upon us with regard to stand location and demolition of the Bug Hut. Pat (Marshall) has reported on the show but my feeling was that we had plenty of visitors to the stand but it didn't seem as busy as it has been in the past. We still had a number of enquiries regarding membership, products and apiary site offers and I have summarised these



The Secretary at the Norfolk Show, waiting for the crowds to arrive...

elsewhere in this issue of *Buzzword*. I will provide contact details to any members who would like to follow up on these.

Events over the next few months include the Apiary Demo at Coston on 13th August and we have a talk scheduled for September 3rd. This can be on Zoom or as a hybrid but we are wondering whether 2 p.m. on a Saturday afternoon is the most suitable time to have our talks. So, the date and time could change, I will email any updates (a reminder that some of the mailshots I send out using the database do end up in spam, trash etc. so remember to keep an eye out for them).

After an enforced break we are able to hold our President's Evening for the presentation of trophies and certificates. A chance to socialise over a few nibbles and cakes and, presumably, experience the ever-challenging quiz set by our President, Paul Metcalf. This will be on Friday 18th November and be held in Felthorpe. More details to follow but put the date in your diaries. Last time we held one in 2019 we tested out a mulled wine recipe I had been given. It had an added ingredient which made it very pleasant, although it probably did not help the drive home.

A quick quiz:

Five questions with a link between the answers.

1. Bird of the finch family, the male having a brown back, grey head and reddish chest which has a fondness for hemp and flax seeds, latin name *Linaria cannabina*.
2. Tree, also known as osier or sallow which grows in wet areas and by rivers, the wood of which is traditionally used to make cricket bats.
3. Leading brand of gravy granules of various flavours, first produced in 1908.
4. Christian name of the actresses Stone, Watson and Thompson.
5. The Roman god of fire, also the name of Spock's home planet.
6. What's the link?

A hint, with it being a Jubilee year there may be a Royal theme. If you think you've got the answers and want to check then just send the Secretary a quick email.

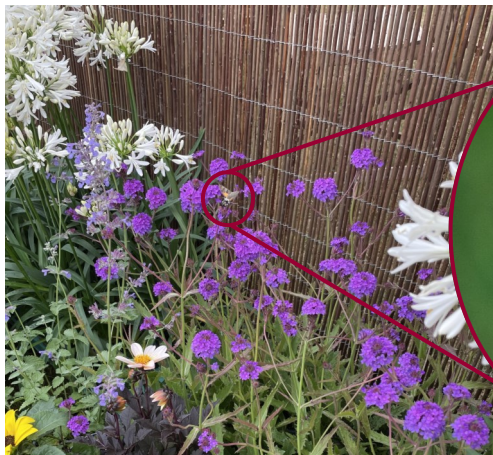
Notices:

- Sadly, one of our members passed away last year and among her beekeeping equipment were two National hives, boxed and unused. These are in the IP20 postcode area.
- Is there anyone in the Attleborough area who is happy to mentor a new beekeeper?

Please contact the Secretary if interested.

A gentleman near Field Dalling has honey bees in a cavity above his front door. He is keen to have them rehoused and is more than happy to remove the brickwork to allow access. He knows just where they are as he has used a heat gun. If someone is prepared to do the job in the autumn, please contact Nick Newbury on newbury.nick@gmail.com or 07798 743981.

Insect of the month



The impressive hummingbird hawkmoth, *Macroglossum stellatarum*, photographed by Lynne Pettit on the flowers for sale at the NBKA stand at the Royal Norfolk Show. This is a big moth, with a wingspan of up to 60 mm, is very fast and can hover very effectively, rather like its namesake. The illusion of a hummingbird comes from the long proboscis and the hum that they create with wings beating so fast. They are not native to the UK but often visit and several mate in this country.

‘For Sale’

Janet has some items for sale. Apart from the gloves, which are brand new, she says everything has been used but in useable condition (apart from one or two repairs):

- Maisemore latex gloves, size 9. 1 used pair, 1 brand new still in packet
- Maisemore latex gloves, size 6. 1 used pair, 1 brand new still in packet
- Large feeder bucket
- Smoker
- Frame scraping tool
- 2 x hive tools

- Decapping fork
 - Frame nails
 - Queen catcher and red marker paint
 - Bee brush
 - 5 frame plywood nuc box with undrawn frames, 2 crown boards, roof and homemade feeder eke
 - Beesuits: Medium Sheriff trousers, top and hood. Maisemore Large overalls, with hood (hood needs a couple of repairs), Maisemore large top and trousers.
- All for £80. Please call Janet on 07741470070 or jwickings@btinternet.com

Jan’s friend in Little Melton near Norwich wants to reduce the number of colonies she has so is looking for someone interested in this way of hosting bees which avoids much of the heavy lifting.

She has 2 full colonies and a 7-bar nuc to rehome. 2022 queens in 2, probably 2022 in the third. A negotiable donation to Bees for Development in return please. Contact Jan Benson on 07801 194102 to discuss.

Apiary sites offered at the Norfolk Show

These offers came through the Norfolk Show. Please contact the Secretary for further details: secretarynbka@gmail.com

Type of site	Location	Postcode area
3 acre Daffodil field on 70 acre farm with wildflower margins	South Lopham, Diss	IP22
Arable farm	Bradenham, Thetford	IP25
Land available	Ashill, Watton	IP25
Large open garden	Kenninghall	NR16
2.5 acre field – 2 dozen mature mixed fruit trees. Planned planting of 50–100 native trees over next year	Neatishead	NR12
5 acre plot with 2 acres available for use as an out apiary	Forngett St. Peter	NR16
Rural location, surrounded by farmland	Wetheringsett	IP14
5 acres of wildflower meadow	Neatishead	NR12
Farmland	Hempstead, Holt	NR25

Wanted

Requests from the Norfolk Show. Please contact the Secretary.

Honey to sell at Raw Milk Farm Shop, Hertford	Up to 50lbs per week
Wax wanted to make beeswax wraps	Rollsby area
Local honey supply	Horstead

Apiary site

Nikki has a garden approx. 1/2 an acre surrounded by two neighbours’ gardens, which are of a similar size and all have allotments and mature gardens. These are surrounded by shrubs and arable farms, the crops normally grown are wheat or sugar beet. This then backs on to marsh land where cattle graze and the river Yare. She lives in Bradwell, post-code NR31 and can be contacted on nicolabunce@icloud.com or 07966048085.

Things 'For Sale' & Wanted

For sale:

Acetic Acid Supply: NBKA has a supply of 80% acetic acid available to members at cost. 1 litre bottles at £6.30; 5 litres at £26. These can be collected from Alvan in Reepham. For details contact 01603 873383.

Nucs and queens for sale

2022 queen **6-frame nucs** available
BS National 8 x 12" frames, £150
Collection or installation by arrangement
Contact: **Venetia Rist**, 07710 753307

Nucs: 6-frame National, £150; 14x12, £180
Delivery and installation available

Queens: Open mated from good-tempered stock, £20 + postage. Viewing prior to purchase welcome

Contact **Lee:** 07717 676262
or leechapman91@live.co.uk

Local suppliers listing

Please bear in mind the advice of Public Health England for social distancing and essential journeys for everyone in the UK when buying or picking up supplies.

Applebee Apiary, Rockland St Mary

John Everett, Master Beekeeper
Large range of beekeeping equipment from Thorne and other suppliers. We breed and sell honey bees.
01508 538231 everettapplebee@hotmail.co.uk
<http://applebeeorchard.co.uk/>

Closed Sundays

Don Cooper, Roughton NR11 8QP; 01263 761517

5/6-Frame BS nucs available from £160;
Other sizes of nuc available to suit customer;
30lb Buckets of honey;
Advice on "all things bees"

Glebelands Apiary, Rocklands St Mary NR14 7BX

Peter Beckley, Thorne agent (reportedly the longest serving in the UK). 01508 480262; orns@btconnect.com

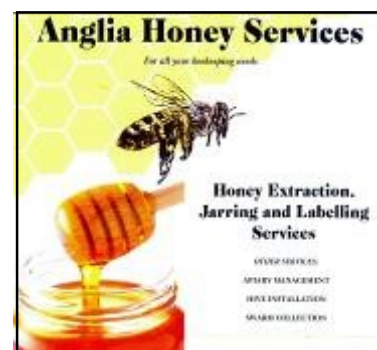
Anglia Honey Services

Honey extraction, jarring and labelling services and hive management:

Hill House,
Framingham Earl Road,
Yelverton,
Norfolk NR14 7PD

Tel 01508 491115 or
07711 517896

angliahoneyservices@yahoo.com



Forthcoming Events

Date	Time	Event	Venue	Contact
August				
13	2pm	Demo: Closing down	NBKA apiary, Coston	Secretary
29	7pm	Show: Aylsham Show, Blickling Park	WNKLBA	Judy Heal
September				
3	2pm	Talk: Pete Davies (topic TBC)	NBKA	Secretary
9	7pm	Executive Committee Meeting (date TBC)	NBKA	Secretary
17	TBC	Sales & Social	WNKLBA apiary	Lee Chapman
TBC		Module Study Group: session start	Zoom	Judy Heal
October				
2	10.30am	Talk: Preparation for the New Season	WNKLBA apiary	Jill Tinsey
11	7.30pm	Winter Lecture: Speaker TBC	WNKLBA	Venetia Rist
14	7.30pm	Beekeepers Quiz & Presentation Evening	WNKLBA, Necton Village Hall	Judy Heal
22	TBC	Show: Autumn Honey Show	NBKA	Show Secretary
TBC	TBC	Apple Day?: Gressenhall Museum	NBKA	Trevor Nash
27-29		National Honey Show	Sandown Park, Esher, Surrey	