

Blandford and Sturminster Beekeepers' Association

December Newsletter 2018



Happy Christmas to you all

You will soon be receiving your calendar for 2019 in the post. I have asked James Nalty to tell Kim Hughes which members have paid their subscription and they will be receiving them. If you haven't paid up for 2019 then your calendar awaits you.

The apiary has had rather a battering from the strong winds; two of the hives were blown over. They have survived but need constant checking to see that it does not happen again. We lost two colonies to wasps in autumn so we are down to 7 colonies some of which are struggling.

Honeycraft will be coming out in January not December so watch out for it in your emails in the New Year. There are some interesting talks in other Dorset associations. Our first meeting is on 15th January in the Shillingstone Church Centre at 7.30pm when we will be making Asian Hornet traps with Ian Condon. It has been very mild so far this winter and a number of wasps have survived. I am sure the same could be said of the hornets.

The module 2 course starts on Monday 11th February for 6 weeks from 7.00-9.00pm in the Shillingstone Church Centre so if you are interested in Honeybee Forage and Products come and join us. The course costs £60 but you do not have to sit the exam if you do the course.

Here are a few lines from a poem by Carol Ann Duffy for Christmas.

Bless air's gift of sweetness, honey
from the bees, inspired by clover,
marigold, eucalyptus, thyme,
the hundred perfumes of the wind.
Bless the beekeeper.

Happy Christmas
Lesley Gasson