

# Blandford and Sturminster Beekeeping Association

## January 2019 Newsletter



Hives last March 2018

Happy New Year to all our members and their bees. This is a short Newsletter to keep you up to date with the BSBKA

**The Apiary** has survived the winter and Geoff and Gordon Grant have treated the colonies with Apibioxal to get rid of the phoretic mites. Don't forget to heft your hives and treat for varroa with this winter treatment. It is only effective on the mites that are attached to the adult bees. There may still be some brood in the colonies because the winter so far has been very mild; the mites may continue to survive in the brood.

**We have acquired two beautiful new hives** as a result of a bequest from Elizabeth Green who died in Fontmell Magna. Pat Butt has assembled them ready for the new beekeeping season. We hope to make the frames for them when we have the frame making day at the end of March. We shall then have to move the bees in; in time for the beginning of the new course .

**Ian Condon will be showing us how to make Asian Hornet traps on Tuesday 15th January** at 7.30pm in the Shillingstone Church Centre. These need to be put out and checked daily from February onwards. The Asian Hornet

queens start to fly about from about that time of the year onwards and look for a nest sites. They are attracted to fish smells.

**Bee supplies for sale** Janet Maugham is moving house and giving up beekeeping. We are sorry to say goodbye to her. She has sent a list of equipment below that she would like to sell. Her email is [janmaughan@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:janmaughan@yahoo.co.uk) and/or phone 07786 306268.

#### **BEE EQUIPMENT SALE**

<b>No</b>	<b>Description of item</b>
2	Complete National Hives (with bees) from N.B.S. in good condition (stand, mesh floor, brood + half, super, frames, dummy boards, crown board, gabled metal roof)
2	Brood boxes DN4, used, all cleaned
4	Super boxes, SN1 used, all cleaned
1	Mesh floor, all cleaned
1	Crown board, all cleaned
1	Gabled metal roof used condition
1	Eke
3	Solid floor trays (2 metal, 1 wood)
4	Queen excluders (2 metal, 2 bamboo) used, all cleaned
6	Dummy boards (3 x brood, 3 x super) as new
3	Mouse guards
1	Smoker with wood fuel
	Spare Hoffman frames (DN4 + SN1), used, all cleaned and some new
	Wax wired foundation to fit above
1	Bailey board
1	Wasp trap floor, plus 2 x reusable wasp trap jars with plastic tops
	Varroa treatments, Apivar and Apistan
2	Plastic contact feeders (4 pint)
	Bee food (1½ tubs Ambrosia syrup, fondant, pollen food)
2	Honey buckets (30 lb) with strainers
1	4 Frame honey extractor, manually operated (white plastic)
1	Full BB Wear Suit, size 10, light green
1	N.B.S. Bee top, size M, tan
	Sundry items

Chris Harwood is our new web master and he is full of ideas. He would like photographs to go on the web page if you have any you think are interesting. It is hard to make a web site interesting unless there is plenty of appropriate and interesting variety of both content and photographs.

**Finally if you have time on a Monday evening from 7.00pm to 9.00pm** I am running a course in the Shillingstone Church Centre on Module 2 . The course is about bee forage and products. There are 6 sessions starting on 11th February and it costs £60 for the course. The course covers flowers; their structure and flowering periods, other sources of nectar and the products are honey, wax, propolis and their treatment and properties. As you can see there is plenty to think about.

Best wishes

Lesley Gasson