



BeeEducated News Issue 2

Welcome to our October issue of our monthly news letter, and what a busy month it has been. It started quietly enough but then like a nuclear test bomb exploding it mushroomed out. First things first though, the weather for the next 27 days from the met office is as follows:-



UK Outlook for Sunday 9 Oct 2016 to Tuesday 18 Oct 2016:
The largely settled weather is expected to continue through much of this period. Despite some spells of bright or sunny intervals, it will often be rather cloudy with outbreaks of light rain in places, especially across eastern coasts. It will remain rather cold for the time of year with breezy conditions continuing, especially across more coastal areas. There will also be some cold nights as well with a local frost possible and the chance of some mist or fog patches. Stronger winds and more in the way of rainfall may affect western areas towards the latter part of this period, bringing a return to milder weather, but detail remains uncertain about this change of weather type with the potential for the largely dry conditions persisting throughout.

UK Outlook for Wednesday 19 Oct 2016 to Wednesday 2 Nov 2016:

After the potential for a settled start, changeable weather is likely to become more dominant into late October across most parts. The north and northwest are expected to see the most unsettled weather, with the strongest winds and the heaviest outbreaks of rain. Temperatures will vary through the period, but will probably be around average, perhaps just above in the south. Northern areas in contrast may see slightly below average temperatures, with an increasing risk of overnight frosts.

This last month we have obtained a couple of items that will help tremendously with the cleanliness and hygiene of the apiary.



The 45 gallon drum has been sliced in half giving us a large sterilising pot for used equipment and is being complimented by a gas ring and 13 Kg lpg supply to boil the frames and boxes. Gives a whole new meaning to cooking on gas.

By now you are all probably aware we lost Hazel as a member and committee member of our group, hopefully she will find fulfilment in other ways.

The group would like also to welcome our new member Dave who joined us last month and who is turning into a real asset to the group.

The break-in during September was notified to the Cheshire Police Authority who are still investigating the situation and any information that becomes public we will pass on through the News Letter.

I think we should all thank Evil Eva's bees for acting as our first line of defense and defeating the culprit's nasty intentions.



Asian Hornet

Bee keepers fears of the Asian hornet coming to our shores from the continent have unfortunately been realized. We have all been aware for a few days of the finding of the huge nest at Tetbury.



Now a confirmation of a second nest has been located in Somerset, North of the Mendip Hills, which the authorities are in the process of eradicating. Very good advice is given by the National Bee Unit on ways to combat the threat at the following web address:-
<http://www.nationalbeeunit.com/index.cfm?pageId=208>

They have advice on spotting the nests, where and how to report them. They also give clear instructions on how to make traps and the ingredients that best find favour with the hornet.

Please remember that although they are now in the UK, the European continent has had them for a while, so nasty as they are, do not worry that all the UK bees are going to disappear. In fact the numbers of bee keepers are growing in the UK and therefore the population of these lovely little pollinators will grow with them. Just be vigilant and keep your eyes and ears to the ground, although not literally in case someone clumsily steps on them.

On a pleasanter note we now have our ok from the authorities to run our lottery, as the small lotteries licence has come through, so expect the tickets to be available shortly.

Late breaking news is that a Primary School in the Wilmslow area is showing interest in our illustrious leader arranging for us to give Bee chats to the young pupils there. So perhaps there will be a tie up that will benefit both us and the school, Ian may be looking for help in the lecturing side there.

Ian has passed on some tidbits he has picked up from his Bees to Bed lectures he has been attending.

One important piece of information is that we can, say once every three or four weeks when the weather is bright, is make a quick inspection inside the hives despite the cold weather in the winter.

So instead of us hoping there is still life in our hives come early spring we can check it out throughout the winter although on a reduced basis and know in advance if things are going reasonably well.

The wasp traps we have made and placed at the apiary certainly seem to have finally bought the debilitating wasp attacks under control. So thanks to all who chipped in.

A month of troubles but we seem to be winning. Well done all.