



# CBKA Newsletter

## January 2010

Volume 24/5. Download our Newsletters from [www.teesbees.co.uk](http://www.teesbees.co.uk)

A new year, a new look! Sadly Sal will soon be leaving us for pastures new, I have been asked to take over the newsletter, a daunting task!

As a new bee-keeper I am relying on lots of support from all members new and old. Any articles or other bits of information that would help our members would be gratefully appreciated.

Contact me on [Derek.Passmore@sky.com](mailto:Derek.Passmore@sky.com)

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### February Meeting

#### Swarm Control

Probably the most important branch of beekeeping. How to catch a swarm, what to do with it, but most importantly, how to avoid it!

To members who have been unable to join us lately we are now settled in our new and very good venue :-

*Wellburn Room, Newham Grange Leisure Farm, Wykeham Way, Coulby Newham, Middlesbrough, TS8 0TG*

Please try and come along, bring a guest if you wish, and meet old and new friends.

#### Bee Bay

A place for you to buy and sell beekeeping and all related equipment

As this is the first time for this section there is only one advertisement, and it's mine!

**Wanted,** Old aluminium greenhouse for allotment use. Call 01642724652

*I have included gardens in this section as all beekeepers are probably gardeners as well*

### Technology

Strange bedfellows, bees and technology, but a couple of things have caught my attention this month, the first was the launch of a USB endoscope. The Snakescope camera is a water resistant web cam with LEDs on the tip, the camera measures just 14mm with a flexible handle and a 2 metre cable. Is this the answer to what's happening in the hive during winter? Well if nothing else for a cost of £30.00 it could always find those lost coins behind the sofa!

The second thought I had was whilst making the bee candy recipe from the December news letter. I used an electronic probe to measure the temperature and it struck me that this could also be used to find out the temperature in my hives without disturbing the bees. This morning (12th January 2010) I have taken the following measurements,

Hive	Outside Temperature	Hive Temperature	Reaction of hive
No1, August swarm	4.5c	25.5c	Bees attacked probe
No 2, May nucleus	4.5c	6c	No reaction

As the August swarm was caught from the May nucleus it appears that the original queen who would have lead the swarm is strong and the hive is thriving, the original nucleus would appear at this point to have died out.

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## This month in the Apiary

January



### Reading bee books and drinking Mead

This can be a very busy time as we prepare for the new season.

- Clean and disinfect hive tools cloths etc
- Prepare brood box's and supers
- Tidy apiary, watching out for signs of vermin
- Check if you have enough frames prepared
- Review your records from last season, find out what you did right and wrong!

Try to find time to visit our local suppliers listed bellow, stock up on all of your needs and as it's a quieter time of year they may even have time for a chat and the offer of some of their expert advice.

## North of England Beekeepers' 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention

*'Beekeeping in a changing and  
varied environment'*

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2010  
Holgate House, Grey College  
Durham, DH1 3LG

### 54 Years of North East Beekeeping Conventions

North of England Beekeeping Conventions have been held since 1956 (with the exception for 2001 due to foot and mouth disease). Convened by the beekeepers of Northumberland, Newcastle, Durham, and Cleveland, the conventions are renowned for their friendliness and comradeship. The conventions feature speakers of national and international stature and this year is certainly no exception. The speakers this year are Margaret Thomas, Clive de Bruyn and Alison Hiles who between them will give five very interesting lectures. Please come and join us in Durham this year and help to contribute to our annual beekeeping fellowship, you will not be disappointed!

Check out the convention website on  
[www.nebees.org](http://www.nebees.org)

Or with questions phone Stuart on 0191 4132672

Secretary: Ian Brown, 48 Thames Ave, Guisborough,

TS14 8AF, Tel 01287 632851

Meetings are held in the Wellburn Room, Newham Grange Leisure Farm, Wykenham Way, Coulby Newham,

#### BEEKEEPING SUPPLIES

Allan, Tony & Richard Jefferson

Stonlea Apiaries, 1 Dalehouse Bank, Staithes, Cleveland, TS13 5AN

Tel 01947 840723 or Tel/Fax 01947 893811

[tony@stoneleabees.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:tony@stoneleabees.wanadoo.co.uk)

Suppliers of all beekeeping equipment

Honey bought and sold

#### LONGNEWTON GRANGE BEEKEEPERS SUPPLIES

John R. Allen

The Grange, Back Lane, Longnewton, Stockton-on-Tees TS21 1BN

Tel 01642 585896 or Tel Home 01642 808073

[beekeepingsupplies@longnewton.fsworld.co.uk](mailto:beekeepingsupplies@longnewton.fsworld.co.uk)

Suppliers of beekeeping equipment.