



Buzz

The Newsletter of Taunton & District Beekeepers

March 2024

Editor's welcome

Lyndsay Stone

Welcome to the latest edition of Buzz and thank you to all those who have contributed – it wouldn't be as varied a read if it weren't for all those people on the lookout for interesting stories and experiences.

Once again the focus as we start the beekeeping year is the fight against the Asian Hornet and you can read later about what you can be doing to protect our bees. On a lighter note, how about trying something different such as locating a drone congregation area, or collecting pollen samples?

With warmer weather surely approaching, I wish everyone a happy and productive beekeeping season!

Chairman's Report

Andy Glendinning

When will this wet weather give way to some warm, dry sunshine?! I think, like many, I'd settle for some cold crisp days at least!

Whilst it's too wet and windy and perhaps too early to be venturing into our bees, there are plenty of jobs to be done in preparing for the upcoming season. Those wanting advice or a 'helping hand' could do worse than read recent articles in the BBKA news or ask a question in the Club's WhatsApp group! Just remember, that with all this topsy-turvy weather it's a classic time of year to lose a colony through starvation.

Things are stirring at the Club's Apiary, with the new Beginner's Course underway and several events for the more experienced beekeepers amongst us. Check out the latest news of events and remember, a good place to get all the up-to-date news is at our Bee chats, most Saturday afternoons when the Apiary is open. Those who attended the recent 'Finding a Drone Congregation Area' with Stephen Fleming had a real treat, all about creating your own DCA hunt! For those who didn't make it, come along to the next event.

Our Annual Dinner at the New Inn at Halse was also real treat; fantastic food and conversation. Many thanks to Lyndsay Stone for organising the evening event.

The annual Club auction is fast approaching and is a great place to find good quality kit and, importantly, bargains! It's also a great place to meet beekeepers from our larger Somerset Association and from further afield. Details are given later in Buzz

Many will have read about our Association's recent decision to move to a new CIO charity. Whilst we do understand that some have been exercised by this decision and perhaps by the swift change(s), the change was made to not only better protect our valued Trustees but to bring our Charity into line with current Charity Commission rules and regulations. It was also an opportunity for the Charity to remind itself and us of the purpose and our aims...namely, to advance the education of the public and beekeepers in the craft of beekeeping and promote the importance of bees in the environment.

So, with this rather dry decision made, we can now turn back to getting on with what we all enjoy; beekeeping! I do hope that you enjoy the remainder of this issue of Buzz and, with hopefully better weather on the horizon, a great start to

your 2024 beekeeping year, (which I know many of you will remind me, started last autumn!)

Apiary Manager's Report

Andrew Perry

The Apiary has been given its winter clean and tidy up, to prepare for the coming season and the outside classes for our new beginners. Although most of our hives have survived the winter, we have lost 3 hives despite all the feeding and treatments. I hope this is not a trend for our members!

Looking forward to the new season and the change in the weather, with hopefully some warmth, we are hoping to open the hives for inspection shortly enabling the new beekeepers to meet some bees for the first time!

Let's hope the new season will be successful for everyone. See you all at the club house soon!

WANTED! Taunton & District Social Media help

Our social media person, James Lowe has decided that it's time to pass on the baton so we are now looking for a replacement. The main task is to update our Facebook page to promote our work and in particular, educate our beekeepers and the general public. We would also like to consider suggestions on using other social media.

James has done a great job managing our Facebook page over the last couple of years. He also managed our page on the Somerset Beekeepers website; fortunately Jenny Squire has offered to take on this role. Thank you Jenny and James.

If anyone is out there and interested in helping with this work then please do contact Julie Husband 07867782435 for a chat.



'Advice to Beekeepers' from 'The Feminine Monarchy' by Charles Butler, published 1609. Contributed by Vanessa Woodford

'If thou wilt have the favour of they Bees that they sting ye not, thou must not come among them smelling of sweat or having a stinking breath caused by eating of Onions, Garleeke and the like. Thou must not be given to surfeiting and drunkenness: thou must not come puffing and blowing, neither hastily stirre among them, nor violently defend thy selfe when they seem to threaten thee, but softly moving thy hand before thy face, gently put them by. Lastly thou must not be a stranger unto them. In a word thou must be chaste, cleanly, sweet, quiet and familiar: so will they love thee, and know thee from others.'

This advice is as good today as it was then. What else did these ancient masters of beekeeping know that we have forgotten?

What's been happening at the apiary?

Wax workshop

by Maggie North

In January a small group of new and old members met at the club for a wax flower making workshop. The group learnt to make two flowers, a rose and a sunflower with some considerable amount of success - so much so that we want to include a Taunton members section at the flower show, so watch this space!





Thanks to all those who attended; you say you learnt a lot, well so did I!
Thanks also to Malcolm and David for their help.
(and to Maggie for organising it.)

Drone Congregation Areas (DCAs)

by Vanessa Woodford

On Wednesday 28th February Stephen Fleming, co-editor of BeeCraft, came to the apiary to give a fascinating talk on DCAs. It was well attended and thank you to all those who car shared or parked elsewhere – in the end, there was plenty of car parking space at the apiary!



I was hoping Stephen could give us some ideas on where to look for DCAs in our area and he didn't disappoint. Whilst it is not known exactly what bees look for in a DCA or how they find the same places from year to year, Stephen had some suggestions for us when trying to locate a DCA:

- look for open, south facing slopes and walk along the top of the slope just as it starts to curve for the summit.
- avoid places with trees or human structures (e.g. Glastonbury Tor) as drones tend to avoid areas with obstacles which might impede their chasing of the Queen.
- timing is also important: between 2.30 and 4.30 in the afternoon but, further north it might be earlier, and on particularly hot days it can be as late as 5.30 - 6pm.
- temperatures of 18 to 19 degrees C. On hotter days he thinks the drones fly much higher where the air is cooler, possibly to counteract heat stress (flying is hard work).
- when there is a light breeze.

This last point is particularly interesting. Stephen's theory is that drones have to do some particularly accurate flying to catch the queen for mating (fly up to a virgin queen, get above her and land on a moving target to grasp her). Precision is easier for airplanes flying into the wind when they land, take off etc. so the same should apply to drones. In a DCA if he moved the lure so the comet of drones had to chase it with the breeze behind them the comet broke up and reformed when the lure was moving into the wind. On still days he didn't find drones at known DCAs.

Having covered where and when, the next question is how? Stephen walks around possible sites with a telescoping flag pole and a queen cage dabbed with some 9ODA (the 'come and get me boys' pheromone of the queen). I have just ordered a flag pole, queen cages are at the apiary but the 9ODA is difficult. Stephen has very kindly agreed to let me know how he gets on with a new American product and if that doesn't work the Devon beekeepers may try to get some more 9ODA (might be a bit pricey). Meanwhile, I have dead virgins in alcohol and Janet Piper has them in glycerine so we can experiment with these.

If we want to catch drones for marking Janet has a butterfly net and Stephen says you can get the drone comet to follow the lure down to about 6ft above the ground provided the vegetation is low enough (drones stop chasing the lure if you take it into vegetation). This is within reach of a butterfly net. I shall

get some multi-coloured marker pens and then we shall be all set to have a hunt.

I had brought along to the talk Ordnance Survey maps of the Taunton area and over tea and lots of cake members started examining them for possible places to start looking near their apiaries with plenty of advice from Stephen.



So, when walking the dog, please pick suitable places and have a look and a listen (DCAs sound like a swarm passing over). If you find a place that sounds suitable then get in touch via the TDBK members group on Whatsapp, and we can arrange an afternoon out with the lure and see if we can catch some drones, mark them, and find out whose apiary they are coming from. I have left the maps at the club house so they can be marked up with the DCAs we find for future reference.

Now all we need is suitable good weather and lots of drones!

Monitoring for Asian Hornets 2024

by Lynne Ingram

Spring

We are approaching the time when Asian Hornet queens will be emerging from hibernation – when the temperature is consistently reaching 13° C – and so we need to be monitoring for their presence.

We don't know if there are any Asian Hornet queens over wintering in the UK this year, or whether any mated queens will make their way into the UK post hibernation. But we need to be prepared.

We strongly recommend the use of **monitoring stations**, rather than killing traps. This allows us to get the evidence of Asian Hornets that we need, without killing our native beneficial insects, in particular European Hornets. Asian Hornet queens will be searching for sugary foods to build up their energy, not preying on your bees. This means that all monitoring stations need to be positioned **where you cannot help but see them** and **where you can easily check them daily** - e.g. outside the kitchen window, or in a sunny spot in your garden. **All beneficial insects must be released** from monitoring stations **daily**.



We are recommending the adaptation of the Veto pharma traps to include the wick stations inside. This allows wasps and small flies to escape. (See Instructions below.)

Modifying the traps

1. Drill at least 3 x 7mm holes at the top of the flutes on the traps, to allow small insects to escape. If you use a drill use a 7.5mm drill bit to allow for the plastic shrinking back to 7mm. Alternatively heat a 7mm nail or skewer to melt the holes.
2. a) Get a small jam or honey jar* and make a 12mm hole in the lid. Fold some Jeye cloth or similar, and thread through the hole to act as a wick. Pour your liquid bait into the jar and replace lid. Put the whole jar into the trap.
b) Cut a washing up sponge to fit into the bottom of the trap. Pour liquid bait in, so that it is absorbed by the sponge with no loose liquid. Close up the trap
3. Hang trap by your kitchen or other window
4. Monitor daily and release other insects

*Cafes will often give away used small jars

Gard Apis

A new selective trap. Has removable inserts of different sizes for different times of year: 8mm for trapping queens (Spring & Autumn), 7mm for trapping workers (Summer). They have a removable tray for bait. You need to have a sponge soaked in Trappit. You can make a rain cover from a 3 litre water bottle.



If you see an Asian Hornet queen in your trap

1. Take a photo
2. Do not release the insect
3. Place the whole trap into a plastic bag and seal
4. Place in freezer
5. Report your sighting with photo on the **AsianHornetWatch** app or on alertnonnative@ceh.ac.uk
6. Report your sighting to your local Asian Hornet team on asianhornet@somersetbeekeepers.org.uk
7. If you need help or advice with this contact asianhornet@somersetbeekeepers.org.uk

Use Trappit (sold as a wasp attractant) Get this from your AHAT Team or **buy online** (Pestfix.co.uk sells smaller bottles). Or try one of these recipes:

- Dark beer mixed with 25ml strawberry dessert sauce and 25ml orange liqueur
- 350ml sweet white wine (or white wine sweetened with sugar) + 20-30ml mint syrup
- 1kg sugar, 2 litres water, 50g jam, 250ml cider vinegar, pinch bakers' yeast. Premix sugar, water and jam beforehand. Add ¼ tsp cider vinegar and pinch bakers' yeast per 10ml sugar mix (in trap not beforehand to prevent fermentation). Make it thicker by mixing 1kg sugar and 1 litre water.

Please also observe any flowers where Asian Hornet queens may be feeding. Any trees that may be oozing sap are also very attractive to AH queens in Spring.

From mid-May AH queens will be mainly in their nests and so monitoring stations can be removed.

Summer

From the August onwards, Asian Hornet workers may be found preying on your bees, so monitoring stations may also be hung in your apiaries. Again, we need to be monitoring regularly so that we protect our beneficial insects, and

so that we have live samples that could be tracked if necessary. Please register your monitoring stations in apiaries on BeeBase.

What to use

- Monitoring stations as above
- Open monitoring stations using a honey jar
- Open bait stations – plastic tray with screwed up kitchen roll, a stone and your liquid bait. Ideally protect these from rain e.g. place on a bird table



Autumn

In the Autumn Asian Hornet workers can be observed on fallen and growing fruit and on ivy plants, where they will often be seen taking prey. This is a crucial time to spot Asian Hornets as it is important to find any nests before the queens emerge and go into hibernation. Males and new queens will be produced in the late Autumn and males can be seen feeding on flowers. Queens are briefly on the wing before they go into hibernation for the winter, so this is a good time to look out for them – checking traps and monitoring stations daily. Observe plants, fruit, and also around your apiary.

If you think you have seen an Asian Hornet:

Get a photo (and/or a sample)

If you are not sure or are struggling to get evidence, contact your local Asian Hornet Action Team at asianhornet@somersetbeekeepers.org.uk

If you are sure and you have evidence, then report on the Asian Hornet Watch App or on alertnonnative@ceh.ac.uk – and inform your local AHAT.

Any questions contact Lynne Ingram, Somerset AHAT Coordinator. asianhornet@somersetbeekeepers.org.uk Or 07846165877.

Collecting Trappit from the club house.

We have a supply of Trappit for members at the club house with some small breakfast jam pots that fit into the Veta-pharma traps.

The idea is that each member has two pots. They put a hole in the lid of one pot for the wick and it is placed in the trap. The second pot with spare Trappit is kept safe until all the Trappit in the first pot is used. The lids are then swapped and the second pot placed in the trap. The first pot with the undamaged lid can then be brought to the club house and refilled during Bee Chat.

European Hornet Nest

by Ian Piper

Whilst talking about Asian hornets in the summer of 2023, Vanessa had expressed a desire to get a European hornet nest to add to the educational displays, so when, a little later a fellow footballer let slip he had one in his garage in Langford Budville, I was quick to ask him if it might be possible to have when the season was over. Fortunately, as a fellow scientist, he had been quite curious himself and had not sought to destroy it. His story is quite interesting.

At first he thought he had a leak in the roof as a damp patch had formed near the access hatch to the shallow pitched roof space (see below)



It turns out that these nests leak a lot of fluid and detritus! A deep tray was put under the nest and he was curious to spot various larvae amongst the detritus falling into it. Research suggests various other insects reproduce within the nests, such as some species of hoverfly whose larvae live in wasp and hornet nests. He also reports that although he and neighbours found that the adults were attracted in by lights of an evening they were no particular problem and nobody appears to have been stung by them.

As activity died down we could approach a bit closer (pic2). In the weeks since its abandonment the nest had been degrading with bits (now dry at least) continuing to fall (pic 3)



Pic 2



Pic 3



Pic 4

The roof space was quite low so there was very little room to move about, however it was clear that the nest was well attached to the roof beams and under-felt. It was also very close to electrical cables but reaching around with a phone showed these were just clear (pic4) – phew!

The first thing we did was give it a once over with some spray varnish to try to give the fragile paper a bit more strength. Then we cut through along the lines of the beams and roof with a very sharp bread knife and dropping it into a very light net (this saved it from being destroyed by handling because every touch seemed to cause more fragments to fall). Indeed when I first saw it the bottom entrance was smaller, some of the delicate paper was already lost.

With some care it was removed back to my garage and hung up. The problem now was what to do with it? Vanessa was clearly wanting something light to carry and easy to see through so I started to think about acrylic - I have been using sheets from the DIY stores to make transparent quilts/cover boards. However after thinking up and rejecting a number of possible designs as too heavy or just beyond my skills I was close to turning it over to someone else.

Then my daughter (Rhiannon) suggested getting acrylic to size and gluing and using laser cut triangles to strengthen. Well, this is not something I had thought about but we decided to go for it. Amazingly we could get 600 x 400mm sheets of accurately cut 3mm acrylic sheets almost as cheaply as buying the large sheets of 2mm acrylic that would have been required from the DIY stores and still need cutting.

The acrylic sheet came and was indeed spot on size-wise so I built a jig (pic 5) while Rhiannon sorted out laser cutting the supports (pic 6) and lid. It turns out you do not use glue but a solvent to 'weld' the edges together. As the solvent is more fluid than water it is quite difficult to control and is applied using what amounts to a blunt syringe tip on a bottle (pic 7).



Pic 5



Pic 6



Pic 7

Having got the pieces together they were removed from the jig and any lacunae in the weld filled in (pic 8). The base of light pine and ply was then made and varnished to fit the acrylic snugly. The lid was located with a couple of bits of acrylic rod into holes in the top triangles. The mirror added at about 15° on a roughly cut ramp (a nice use of school trigonometry). The nest was sprayed again and placed in a new net, Janet having reinforced the open end. This was gently lowered into the box and a piece of dowel pushed through the



Pic 8



Pic 9



Pic 10

netting to hold it up (pic 9). Janet then carefully added some extra supporting threads. The final result does not look too bad (pic 10). You can clearly see the

galleries through the holes at the top to see and up into the nest via the mirror
– see below.



Words to the Wise:

Talking to 5 & 6 year olds about honeybees

by Julie Husband

In January I had the opportunity to talk with the Year 1 children at Rockwell Green School about honey bees. Keep it simple was my key aim and that seemed to work. Using key information from BBKA website

<https://www.bbka.org.uk/Pages/Category/school-visits> was really helpful, in particular the information about how smelly bees feet are!

They were able to ask questions and some of them were very insightful. I was impressed with the question about why were there V lines in the frame of comb. One little girl said her mum's boyfriend wants to be a beekeeper and she said she hopes they get married.

A good majority of the children had never tasted honey so luckily I had a jar with me and they all dipped their wooden stick in for a taste. There was one or two that really didn't like honey but of course most did.

I really enjoyed my afternoon with the children and I think they enjoyed it too. I've put together a school's box, which anyone can add to, that includes small models and a prompt sheet. If anyone wants to help with school talks or borrow the kit then please get in touch with me on 07867782435

Forthcoming dates for your diary - all Taunton members welcome

Thursday March 28th 7.30pm

Heatherton Park TA3 5JD with tea and cake

“TDBKA Citizen Science Project: Making a Pollen Library” with Simon Jones

As beekeepers with an eye on the honey, we're very aware of the importance of nectar to our bees, but as we all know nectar is just one of 4 key substances essential to a thriving colony (nectar, water, propolis and pollen).

So we're calling on all Taunton members to join our Citizen Science Project as “pollen collectors” and help us collect varieties of local pollen. The pollen collected will be stored and then made into pollen slides; identified by microscope and recorded in what we believe might be the first Taunton Association Pollen Library.

This is the first stage of our Citizen Science Project finding out more about pollen collected by the bees in the association apiary, which we hope will lead us to working out where and when they may be foraging locally.

So all you have to do is pop along to an introductory talk by Simon Jones and get some tips on collecting and storing pollen and we'll let you know what we need you to do.

Sunday 7th April 2pm Annual Spring Equipment Auction

Ruishton Village Hall, Taunton TA3 5JD

Our annual auction takes place at Ruishton Village Hall and not only is it a great way to bid for some bargains, but also a wonderful way to catch up with other beekeeping chums.

Refreshments are available. A raffle also adds a heightened level of excitement to your afternoon too - donations of raffle prizes on the day will be gratefully received.

Free street parking available, but please do be considerate of the villagers and young people using the park! Equipment can be dropped off from 10:00am

and the Auction starts promptly at 2:00pm. Payment by card (preferable), cash or cheque.

Saturday 20th April 2pm Bailey Comb Change with Maggie North

Heatherton Park with tea and cake

An opportunity to learn more about how to do a Bailey Comb Change in your hives.

Bailey Comb Change is a useful and gentle way to change your colony onto a complete set of fresh comb at the start of the season. However, written instructions can make the procedure more puzzling than it need be, so we are offering you the opportunity to see how it's done and Maggie will be there to answer all your questions.

A Bee Chat session follows at 4pm.

Saturday May 11th 2pm Swarm Control Methods with Maggie North

Heatherton Park

Come along to another session with Maggie North and learn about some great ways to discourage your hives from swarming. Tea and cake available...of course!

A Bee Chat session follows at 4pm.



Spring 2024 Convention

Harper Adams University, Shropshire, TF10 8NB

Friday 12 – Sunday 14 April 2024

This Convention is being held during the 150 year anniversary of the BBKA and is truly a historic event, with some extra treats.

Lectures, Workshops & Seminars

Bumper Trade Show Sat 13 April

Ticket prices held: Trade Show only - £6

For latest information including full programme, visit

www.bbka.org.uk/springconvention

PLUS A FREE HIVE TOOL* FOR EVERY ADULT PARTICIPANT, INCLUDING TRADE SHOW ONLY!

*while stocks last

Enquiries to: scenquiries@bbka.org.uk

Stewards are also being recruited and any member interested in stewarding at the convention is asked to contact conventionstewards@gmail.com

The BBKA Education & Husbandry Committee has arranged the following courses to be held at the BBKA office and apiary, Stoneleigh:

Saturday 15th June 2024 Queen Rearing Course

This one day course is for BBKA members who are improver or experienced beekeepers. The course is suitable for those who have learnt the basics of colony management and want to learn more about queen rearing. The course will seek to equip the beekeeper with the knowledge and skills to raise sufficient queens for their own colonies and potentially improve their own

stock, possibly having surplus queens to share with others in a small breeding group.

The course will cover queen marking, queen cell selection, selecting breeding material, setting up cell raising colonies and the set up and management of nuclei and mini nucs for mating queens. It will also cover queen introduction and different simple methods of producing your own good queens.

Cost £75

Saturday 20th July & Sunday 21st July 2024 Advanced Husbandry Course

BBKA's Education and Husbandry Committee is pleased to offer this course which is aimed at experienced beekeepers. A programme of two days will cover both theoretical and practical aspects of the Advanced Husbandry Assessment, aiming to give the participants an understanding of what the assessment entails and what they need to do to be successful.

For BBKA members only; the participants are required to hold the BBKA General Husbandry Certificate and to be eligible to take the Advanced Husbandry assessment in the near future.

Cost £160.00 per person

Saturday 10th August 2024 Honey Bee Health: Train the Trainer Course

The Honey Bee Health Certificate is a practical qualification which makes a major contribution to improving beekeeper practice.

This one day course is for BBKA members who are experienced beekeepers wishing to run a Honey Bee Health course locally. Participants should have passed the Honey Bee Health certificate themselves. The emphasis in the session will be on recent and relevant content and how to meet the needs of a variety of beekeepers you encounter locally.

Participants will leave with the resources necessary to run a Honey Bee Health course which can be adapted to their own situation. Participants who deliver a HBH training in their own association during 2025 will have their course fee refunded.

Cost: £35

Microscopy

There are still a few places left on the Beginners, one day Microscopy and the two day Intermediate Microscopy courses in February.

For more details and to book a place, please go to the Shop on the BBKA website:

<https://www.bbka.org.uk/pages/shop/department/training-course>

Adverts/Requests for help

New BBKA information leaflets available

Beekeeping in Developed and Managed Environments including Solar Farms
(by kind permission of Simon Maslin, Beverley BKA)

Solar Farm Sites (by kind permission of Sally Leslie, Dorchester & Weymouth BKA).

The leaflets are available to download from the BBKA website: <https://www.bbka.org.uk/bbka-leaflets>

Taunton Division's Library

This can be found at the apiary. There are a wide variety of books to borrow on a 2 week loan; some are marked as for reference only. Please sign out books and return them promptly so that others can enjoy them too.

BBWear Ultra Suits

BBWear are offering a 10% discount on Ultra suits and vests using code BKAULTRA10 (case sensitive) until end July. These suits have been tested with Asian Hornets and offer 5mm sting protection

<https://mailchi.mp/088c5b957834/association-discount-from-bbwear-17644825>

Gilbert White's House & Gardens, is an institutional member of the BBKA and has generously offered a two-for-one entry to BBKA Members during the BBKA's 150th anniversary year.

Gilbert White's House & Gardens was the home of the 18th century writer and naturalist whose work 'The Natural History of Selborne', has inspired generations of naturalists. White is remembered for being the father of ecology, identifying several iconic British species such as the harvest mouse and for his observations on drone congregation areas.

His house and gardens in Selborne, Hampshire, opened as a museum in 1956 when money to buy the property was provided by Robert Washington Oates, the nephew of Captain Lawrence Oates, on condition that the museum also displayed the Oates family collections. Today, it celebrates the achievements of three explorers of the natural world – Gilbert White, who studied the environmentally diverse Selborne area in great detail, Frank Oates who explored in Central America and Southern Africa in the late 1800s and Captain Lawrence Oates who was with Scott in Antarctica and walked to his death on this 30th birthday in an attempt to save the lives of his comrades with the famous last words 'I am just going outside and I may be some time'.

The museum established beekeeping on site May 2022 to help to pollinate some 25 acres of land which are managed as wildflower rich meadows, provide additional interest for visitors as well as generating additional income for the charity. The museum is also keen to raise awareness of bees and other pollinators and the important role they play in the 'interconnectedness of things'.

If you would like to take advantage of this two-for-one-offer, please use the ticket on page 11 of the February issue of BBKA News Magazine.

More details on Gilbert White's House can be found on the website: <https://www.bbka.org.uk/news/gilbert-whites-house>

Extractor hire

If you need to hire the apiary's extractor then please contact either Mike Dillon 07585 537030 or Andrew Perry 07527 887620 to arrange.

Repairs to bee veils and suits.

Contact Jenny Gammon on 01823 270465 or 07788407497

The Tax Gatherer by John Tabb 1845-1909

"And pray, who are you?"

Said the violet blue

To the Bee, with surprise

At his wonderful size,

In her eye-glass of dew.

"I, madam," quoth he,

"Am a publican Bee,

Collecting the tax

On honey and wax.

Have you nothing for me?"

We hope you enjoyed reading our newsletter!

Deadline for June edition of Buzz: June 7th 2024