



NEWSLETTER No. 178 DECEMBER 2012

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS ISSUE

HELENSBURGH BEEKEEPERS ALMANAC 2013

JANUARY

Helensburgh beekeepers busily sorting out and cleaning equipment in preparation for the season ahead.

Helensburgh bees snug in their hives 3 feet under snow.

Scottish Football Association votes for winter close down.

Frost

FEBRUARY

Helensburgh beekeepers busily constructing nucs.

Helensburgh bees pop out for pollen.

Rangers knocked out of Scottish Cup.

Unusually warm.

MARCH

Helensburgh beekeepers attend SBA AGM. Dewar's Centre runs out of food.

Helensburgh bees wonder if they have enough stores to keep them going.

Celtic and Samaras both fall in Champions League bid.

Gales

APRIL

Helensburgh beekeepers search for queens to mark with yellow dots.

Helensburgh bees hide queens away from said beekeepers.

Inverness Caley Thistle march on to Cup Final

April showers

MAY

Helensburgh beekeepers look for missing bees

Helensburgh bees settling down nicely in new premises after swarming.

Rangers fail to gain promotion on the last day of the season

Warm

JUNE

Helensburgh beekeepers decide to give up beekeeping.

Helensburgh bees thriving.

Ali McCoist decides to give up football and takes up beekeeping

Still warm

JULY

Helensburgh beekeepers wish they had prepared better for the season ahead: Thornes run out of supers.
Helensburgh bees working their socks off.
Rangers loose all three of their games on pre season tour to Iceland.
Heatwave.

AUGUST

Helensburgh beekeepers run out of honey jars
Helensburgh bees wonder when they are going to get treated for those pesky mites.
Neil Lennon appointed as Ranger's new manager. He tells the Daily Record "This is the job I have been dreaming about".
Monsoon conditions

SEPTEMBER

At the annual review meeting Helensburgh beekeepers vow to turn over a new leaf. This year's beginners wonder what all the fuss was about.
Helensburgh bees supercede all their remaining marked queens. "Just see their faces when they open up the hives next April" and then kick out the drones.
Balmy

OCTOBER

Helensburgh beekeepers busily studying for Basic Beemaster's Certificate, Intermediate Practical Examination and no end of modules in bid to improve themselves: some even start reading books from the association's library.
Helensburgh bees wonder why Helensburgh beekeepers have forgotten to feed them.
Scotland's World Cup campaign back on the road with the appointment of Sir Alex Ferguson as manager.
Gales

NOVEMBER

Helensburgh beekeepers attend SBA Council meeting in force and bring their own sandwiches.
Helensburgh bees feel it is time to take a well earned break.
Scotland's qualification hopes for the World Cup now mathematically impossible after another poor performance on the road. Sir Alex takes up beekeeping.
Sleat and snow

DECEMBER

Helensburgh beekeepers go Christmas shopping for new equipment.
Helensburgh bees cluster tightly to avoid that nasty, cold, oxalic acid.
No football; new winter close down in force.
Perfect weather.

SEASONS GREETINGS AND BEST WISHES FOR THE NEW BEEKEEPING YEAR

NEXT MEETING

A gentle reminder that our next meeting is on Thursday 31 January at 7.15 pm. in the Hall at Rhu Church.
There will be the usual short AGM followed by a quiz night and social get together with food and drink.