



CYMDEITHAS GWENYNWYR LLŶN AC EIFIONYDD

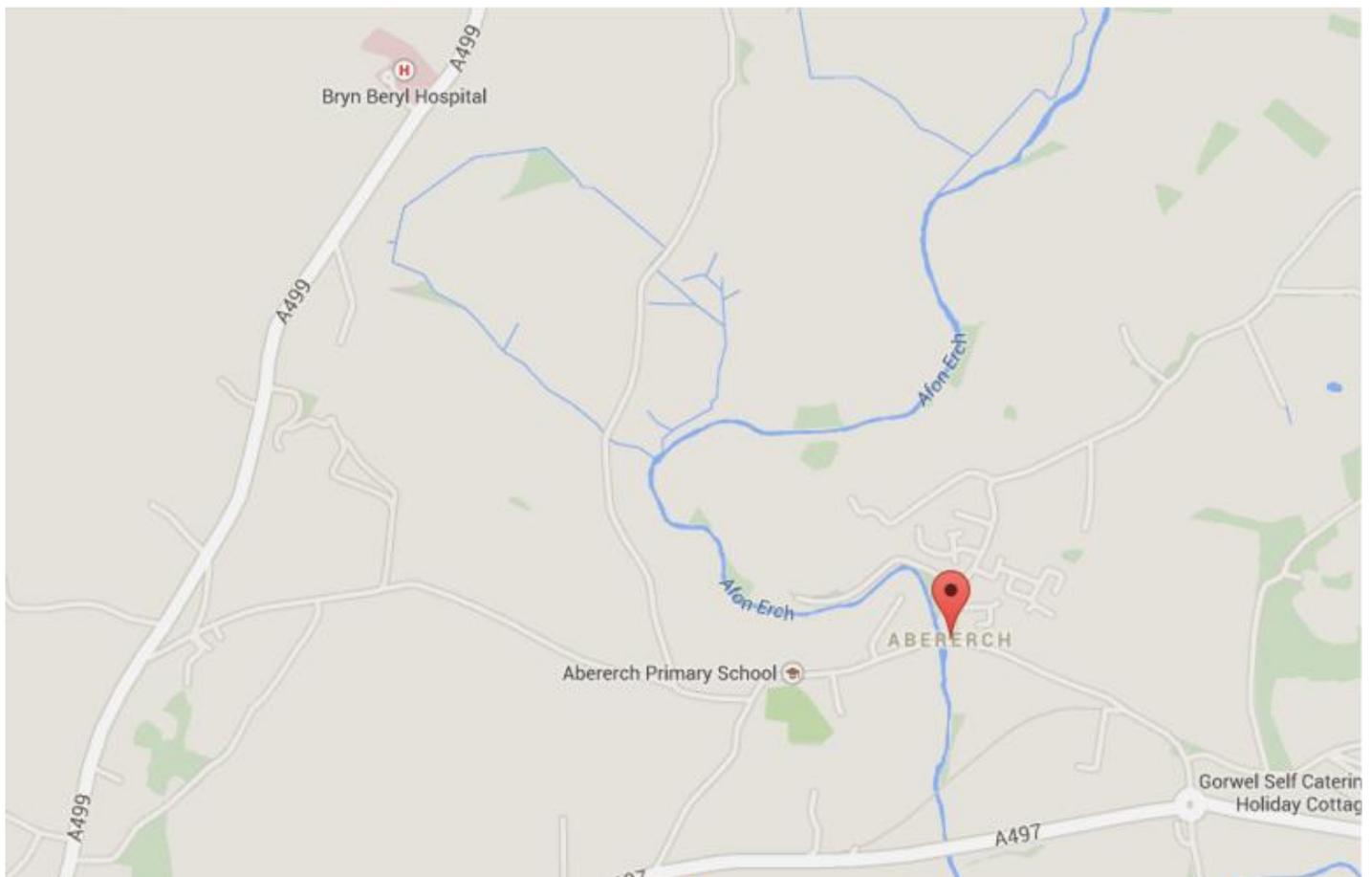
Lleyn & Eifionydd Beekeepers' Association

Affiliated to the Welsh Beekeepers Association Charity No. 509929

Dear Members,

Last month we visited the Association apiary at Blaw ac ati. For once the weather was excellent and there was a good turnout. The association apiary looks in good shape. Thanks to our apiary manager, David Pitcher, for looking after the apiary and for hosting the visit which was enjoyed by all.

This month's meeting is our first indoor meeting. Apart from February's meeting, they are held at Abererch Village Hall at 7:30pm. If you look at 52.903721,-4.382446 on Google maps, you can street view it. From the A497 turn up to Abererch at the roundabout. Past 2 turnoffs to the right, over a small bridge and the hall is on the right. Doors open at 7:00pm for a 7:30pm start. This month's meeting is a **honey show** where members get to show off their honey products. There are several categories and members are free to enter as many as they like. The more entries there are, the more interesting the evening will be, so don't be shy 😊



Cyfarfodydd Gaeaf CGLI&E**LIEBKA Winter Meetings**

lau / Thurs 7.30pm	16/10/14	Sioe Fêl y Gymdeithas Association Honey Show
lau / Thurs 7.30pm	20/11/14	Cyfarfod Blynyddol & Swper AGM & Supper
lau / Thurs 7.30pm	15/1/15	Free bees - swarms, bait hives and extracting feral colonies from buildings – David Heaf
	Chwefror February	Cyfarfod ar y cyd efo Cymd. Gw. Meirionydd Joint meet with Meirionydd BKA
lau / Thurs 7.30pm	19/3/15	George Burgess
lau / Thurs 7.30pm	16/4/15	Pre-emptive Swarm Control – Wally Shaw

Gair o'r Gadair**Chairman's Tips**

Dyna ni'r tymor drosodd – ac yn sicr y tymor gorau i'r rhan fwyaf ohonom ers rai blynyddoedd. Gobeithio i chi gyd fwynhau eich profiadau o gadw gwenyn eleni, a bod y rhan fwyaf ohonoch wedi llwyddo i gael cnwd go lew o fêl.

Gallwch ddechrau ymbaratoi ar dymor nesaf yn syth bin, drwy edrych yn ôl a cheisio meddwl pa gamau buasech eu cymryd eto – a pha agweddau y buasech yn eu gwella. Drwy fynychu cyfarfodydd y Gymdeithas dros fisoedd y gaeaf gallwch hefyd dynnu ar wybodaeth gwenynwyr profiadol. Cofiwch hefyd fod gan y Gymdeithas lyfrgell ardderchog o dros 70 o lyfrau gwenyna, ac fe allwch fenthyca'r rhain a'u darllen dros y gaeaf.

Erbyn hyn dylech fod wedi gorffen bwydo'r gwenyn, ac fe ddylai'r cychod fod yn drwm i'r teimlad. Ceisiwch arfer eu codi (o'r llawr – tynnwch y to yn gyntaf!) o'r pen blaen ac o'r cefn ac fe ddowch i allu asesu faint o fwyd sydd ganddynt i'w cadw dros y gaeaf.

Mae'r Hydref a'r gaeaf yn gallu bod yn adeg stormus, ac fe ddylech sicrhau fod eich cychod yn saff yn y tywydd stormus. Cerrig ar ben y to, neu strapiau i'w cadw i lawr. Cyn diwedd y mis fe ddylech osod sribedi atal llygod. Os yw'r tywydd yn oeri, fe all y gwenyn ffurfio clwstwr, ac fe all llygod gael mynediad i'r cwch heb unrhyw rwystr. Dyna beth fyddai lanast erbyn y gwanwyn!

Gaeaf diwethaf, am y tro cyntaf mi rois i ddarn 25mm o ddeunydd insiwleiddio Kingspan dros y bocs magu. Rwyf yn argyhoeddedig eu bod wedi gaeafu yn well – ac yn sychach, gan fod waliau allanol y bocs yn oerach na'r to, ac yn achosi unrhyw gyddwysiad i lifo i lawr ochrau'r bocs yn hytrach nag o'r to ar ben y gwenyn.

Mae'r pwyllgor wedi trefnu rhaglen werth chweil ar gyfer y tymor y gaeaf, gan gychwyn efo'r Sioe Fêl wythnos nesaf. Hon yw'r tro cyntaf i'r Gymdeithas gael Sioe Fêl ers rai blynyddoedd, felly

byddwn i gyd yn cychwyn o'r un fan! Gobeithio y gwnewch gystadlu mewn cymaint o ddsbarthiadau ag y gallwch er mwyn i ni gael sioe gofiadwy.

That's it – the season's over for another year and for many of us the best season we have seen for a few years. Hopefully you have enjoyed your beekeeping experiences this year and have had a reasonable crop to boot.

Preparations for next season can start immediately, by looking back over your last season and trying to think how you might do things differently next time around. The Association meetings over the winter months will be invaluable, allowing you to draw on the expertise of our more experienced members. New members might not be aware that we have an excellent beekeeping library, with over 70 titles. These books will be available for you to borrow and read over the winter months.

At this stage, winter feeding should be complete, and the hives should be heavy with stores. Try to get into the habit of hefting the hives. Remove the roof and lift up the hive from the front and then repeat by lifting from the back. With practice you will be able to assess the amount of winter stores available.

Autumn and winter can be stormy, and you should ensure that your hives are secure. Stones on the roof, or hive straps can make them safe. Before the end of the month, you should fit mouse guards. As the weather becomes colder, the bees will form a cluster, and mice can enter unchallenged. What a mess that would be by springtime!

Last winter, for the first time, I placed a 25mm sheet of Kingspan insulation over the top of the brood box. I am convinced that my bees over-wintered better and were drier, as a result. The insulation on top meant that the coldest spots were the hive walls, allowing any condensation to run down the walls rather than from the crown board onto the cluster of bees.

The committee has arranged an excellent programme for the winter, with hopefully plenty to interest us all. We start off with the honey show next week. This is the first honey show that we have run in our Association for many years. It's for fun only, and we are all beginners at this. Please enter in as many categories as you can, so that we have a really good show.

News

Small hive beetle: the Small Hive Beetle has recently been found in an apiary in Southern Italy. The NBU are currently liaising with colleagues in Italy to ascertain the extent of the outbreak but in the meantime have written a Q&A (attached) for information. It is anticipated that the inspectorate will embark on extra inspections to ensure this pest has not entered the UK. A notification has been put on Beebase and representatives attending the BHAF meetings have also been informed. For more information about this exotic pest and the things beekeepers should do are illustrated in the NBU advisory leaflet 'The Small hive beetle'. Please see the NBU website for more details: <https://secure.fera.defra.gov.uk/beebase/>

The Welsh Beekeeper is looking for a new editor – see poster attached. Anyone interested should contact the WBKA.

If you are considering sending messages, articles, letters, pictures etc for the Winter edition of the Welsh Beekeeper, the material is required by the 31st October 2014.

A Yahoo group exists for Gwynedd beekeepers to discuss matters relating to local beekeeping. Anyone can join. Visit <http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/group/gwyneddbeekeeping/> and follow the instructions, or send a blank email to gwyneddbeekeeping-subscribe@yahoogroups.co.uk .

Association Contacts

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