



## **SKIRLING HONEYBEE PROJECT**

The bees have been enjoying and making the most of the good weather bringing in lots of pollen and some nectar.

I have done a few inspections already this year on the very warm days and have had to do quite a bit of work with the colonies which makes them a little bit tetchy so no hive visits have been arranged so no one gets stung!

We still have two colonies. One is building up nicely and starting to produce some honey, although a long way off being ready.

The other decided to replace its queen which is common if she is getting old or laying less eggs for example. However, they did it a bit too early, when the weather was good early on, thinking summer had arrived. Getting a new queen properly mated that early in the year is very difficult and as yet she is not productive. At the next inspection if she has still not started producing lots of eggs she is never going to be viable so will be removed and replaced if one of my own new queens is ready soon or the worker bees left in the colony will be merged with the other hive. This would produce a big hive which could be split into two in a month or so if required.

I will send out an email when the next hive visit becomes available. If you no longer wish to be notified of hive visits let me know and I will remove your name.

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