



FLYNN'S BEE FARMS LIMITED

Elmley Farmware
Garden of England

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Members of the BEE FARMERS ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER AUTUMN-WINTER 2008

Dear friends

We are writing this letter just as the summer is ending and the bees are still busy. It won't be long before they are all tucked away snugly in their hives after a very busy and productive season. People have been asking us a lot of questions about the situation nationally with bees, as there has been a lot of media coverage on Colony Collapse Disorder – where the bees just disappear for no apparent reason. There is a lot of concern about why this happens, particularly in the USA, where huge losses have been reported. Last year was an unfortunate year for many British bee farmers, with higher than normal losses reported. However, our bees are ok, and we pray that things will continue that way. What is of concern to many beekeepers, is that we don't know what causes CCD. There has been much speculation – pesticides, varroa (evil little mites that carry viruses which destroy colonies of bees), even mobile phone masts have been blamed. The truth is, we just do not know the answer, and we need vital scientific research to continue if we are to prevent further losses of British bees. Environmentally, bees are priceless because they pollinate gardens, wild flowers, agricultural crops and, especially important here in Kent, our fruit trees. The government have estimated that honeybees contribute £120 million pounds to British Agriculture, and yet they want to put them at risk by introducing cuts that will only save an estimated £250,000 in the huge DEFRA budget. We think that MORE money should be put into scientific research – not less, before it is too late. If you want to know more about this issue and what you may be able to do to help, please go online to British Beekeepers' Association at www.bbka.org.uk.

Web customers will have noticed that we have expanded our range of natural products greatly this year, to include lots more natural toiletries – soaps, shower gels, shampoos, hair conditioners, foot spray, and pillow spray. We have also produced a lanolin free version of our propolis salve. We know that this will please many of you who wanted to use the salve but could not, because of an allergy to lanolin (wool fat). The new version is called propolis and beeswax ointment, and it has all the same benefits as propolis salve. Please telephone us if you would like advice on how to use it, or any of our other products. We are always willing to help and advise you as best we can, just call us on 01795 874935, and if we are busy, please leave your name and number as we WILL get back to you as soon as possible. Please keep your letters coming in, we enjoy reading how our products have helped, and it is always useful for others to read – especially if they are considering using our products for a similar condition. If a letter is too time consuming for you to write, then perhaps you could leave a review on our web site at www.flynnbeefarm.co.uk.

We have put together many gift ideas to help with Christmas and other occasions, some of which are pictured overleaf, and most of them are under £10.00. You will get a better view of them in colour if you go onto the web site, but if you see anything you like on the reverse of this letter, then just telephone us to order, as it is not possible to list them all on our order forms. Initially, we thought these gifts would be good for Christmas – especially for our customers who find it difficult to get out to the shops. However, the gifts themselves have already proved so popular in the store, that we have decided to make them an all year round feature! If you would like us to send a gift directly to a friend on your behalf, then don't forget that we can post it for you with a card and message from you. Please note, that at this time of year, we get very busy with orders for bespoke gift baskets, where you choose the products and we make it up into a beautiful basket, all decorated, for you to take away. If you would like to order any this year – for collection from the farm only – please telephone, or call in, let us know what you want in your basket, and tell us if it is for male, female or family, so that we can use the most apt decorations. Whilst you're here, you can take some tea and crumpets, if you like, and you can also browse in both our shops. We aim to offer all our customers the most relaxing way of shopping possible for both health and happiness – whether you order by telephone, post, internet or visit our farm – though unfortunately we can't serve tea over the phone!

Please note: we will be closed for one week from Monday 27th October, until Monday 3rd November inclusive. Once the bees have packed up work for the winter, we can do the same for one week! Normal service will resume as soon as we return, and our opening hours are 9am-5pm, Mon-Fri, and 9.30am-5pm Sat. Our daughter, Jasmine is sitting her 11+ exam this September, so we are going to take her away during the October half term, for a special treat and well earned break – so we hope you understand if you try to get in touch with us during that week.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all the best of health and happiness for 2009. Please stay in touch and let us know what you think of our products and how they have helped you, as everything we do is aimed at providing good service and natural products that will help improve your life. We value your opinions and your custom.

Best regards

Sudi Austin (Managing Director and grand daughter of founders)

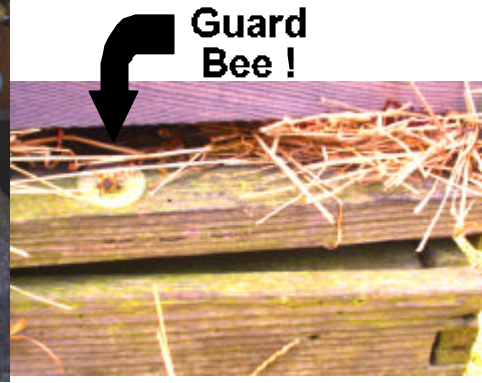
PROPOLIS & BEESWAX OINTMENT



Our Own Recipe
a new & gentle addition
for the first-aid box



ABOVE: Chris bottles some of the precious honey we've harvested. **RIGHT:** Our hive doorways are partially stuffed with straw to help bees defend their colony & keep warm, from autumn to spring. **LEFT:** Before the winter snuffles set in, remember to order your Natural Vapour Rub for just £3.75



Visitors to the tea room have been so taken with our bespoke china while enjoying cream teas, high teas & homemade cakes that the gift studio has sold out & restocked many times. Naturally, the most popular designs are birds and bees!



READY GIFTS IN SPARKLY ORGANZA BAG

- A) Honey Gift £ 5.10 227g English Honey + wooden "twizzler
- B) Luxury Body Therapy Gift £ 8.00 Beeswax & Honey Body Therapy + faceflannel.C) Luxury Soap & Bathmilk Gift £ 6.05 Handmade Kentish apple soap+ bluebell mini bathmilk + faceflannel.
- D) Handmade & Natural Bath Gift £5.05 fruit scented glycerine soap+ mini bath milk+ faceflannel.E) Gardeners Gift £6.20: Lemon & Tea Tree luxury soap+ nailbrush+ faceflannel+ Waxelene.
- F) Relax Naturally Bath Gift £5.56 beeswax candle+ mini luxury soap+ mini bathmilk + faceflannel.G) Naturally Clean & Fresh Gift £4.39 Lemon glycerine soap+ nailbrush + Flannel. H) Handmade Beeswax, Honey & Peppermint Lip Balm Gift £ 1.95.
- J) Handmade & Natural Mini Soap Gift £1.60. K) Natural Handmade Lip Balm Gift £ 3.15 L) Cooks Gift Basket £8.35 handmade Herbs de Provence Luxury Cooks Soap+ nail brush+ tea-towel



READY GIFTS IN CUSHION BOXES

- M) Luxury Lavender Handmade Mini Bath Box £3.26 mini bath salts+ mini soap
- N) Gentlemans Handmade Mini Bath Box £3.26 Frankincense & Myrrh mini bath salts + mini soap O) Honey & Goatsmilk Luxury Soap Gift Box £4.00



LEFT: Sudi checks our range of Natural Handmade toiletries in the store.

Flynns Bee Farms Ltd. Elmley Rd. Minster-On-Sea Sheerness Kent ME12 3SS 01795 874935 www.flynnsbeefarm.co.uk