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# USING FEATURE

## BEST IN CARING PROFESSIONS

### PROPOLIS — THE MEDICINE OF THE FUTURE

**Bee farmer, Bill Flynn, turned to his beehives for help when his daughter developed an Arthritic hip.**

Following his success and consequent interest from the media, Bill, retired National Pollination Secretary and Treasurer to the Bee Farmers's Association, received thousands of letters from Arthritis sufferers worldwide, desperate for some of the sticky resin called Propolis, which is produced and used by the bees to keep their hives sterile. The demand was so great that Bill and his wife, Iris, came out of retirement to supply those in need. It was not long before letters of thanks from as far away as America, Australia, Japan and Zambia arrived at their home — not only from sufferers of Arthritis and Rheumatism, but also M.S., M.E., Asthma, Eczema, Psoriasis, Spondylosis, Cancer, Leukaemia, Blood Pressure, Colds and Flu. Many women have also written to say that it was helped with P.M.T. and Menopause symptoms.

Propolis was known to the ancient cultures, it was reported to have been found in the pyramids. Before the Iron Curtain came down, many trials were carried out in Eastern Block countries proving its effectiveness and value to the human immune system, but until its collapse, modern scientists from the West had no access to this information. Among these trials, numerous positive results were reported on vegetal and animal viruses — such as the influenza virus — and these have opened up the possibility of exploring the actions of Propolis on other groups of viruses.

As Propolis is a whole complex of ingredients, which are gathered and processed in the bee's glands, it cannot be reproduced synthetically. Only some of the ingredients are constant, and some are still unidentified today. It appears that nature has provided us with a balance to

counteract the rogue viruses thrown at us, and has presented it to us through the bees. At present, Propolis is classed as a health food. It has no known side-effects, and many people have taken it alongside medicines prescribed by their doctors. "Of course, as we are Bee Farmers and not doctors, we always recommend that people consult their doctors before taking Propolis with other medication," said Mrs Flynn, "but more and more doctors are actually recommending patients to take Propolis, and some have even been able to come off the drugs they were being prescribed."

However, it has not been all plain sailing for Mrs Flynn and her family. A short while after Bill died, they were advised by the medical authorities that they may not mention the names of any illness that Propolis may help, or publish letters of recommendation from their customers, although they have thousands from around the world. The reason they were given for this, is that until Propolis becomes a licensed medicine, it is only a health food, and may not be advertised for use against illness — despite the recent trial results, and those results published

before 1978. "It all seems so unfair," said Mrs Flynn. "We have only tried to pass on the information gleaned from successful users of Propolis, so that it might help others. None of this is for our own personal gain." Indeed, Mr Flynn was approached by a large chemical company wanting to take over the product, but realising that they would price it out of the market for ordinary people and pensioners, he refused. Since then, many others have jumped on the band-wagon, realising that there is money to be made. Some are even trading on the good name of Bill Flynn, but they will be stopped. There is cheaper, poor-quality Propolis to be found on the market. All of Flynn's Bee Farms' Propolis is refined and quality tested in a European laboratory, under strict E.C. regulations. This does tend to cost more, but the quality, strength, safety and hygiene are guaranteed. If you do have any information on Propolis, which you feel could help the trials at the Heart and Lung Institute, please ring Flynn's Bee Farms on 0795 874935, or they would be pleased to help if you would like to ask any questions on what may well be the medicine of the future.