

# Heligan Gardens

## Group Apiary Report Jan 2019

The first project of the year was to build a Tree Hive from a felled Monterey Pine from the Heligan estate. An impressive 11 members of the RBG turned up on a bitterly cold day in February to help out.

The idea was to create a 'wild' habitat for bees and for it to populate naturally. However it wasn't a good year for swarms and unfortunately this didn't happen. Fingers crossed for 2019!

The apiary itself went into 2018 with what seemed to be 5 strong colonies, with plenty of stores

The first inspection in April however revealed the effects of the cold winter. 3 of the 5 colonies had perished, isolated from their stores. I felt sorry for some of the new members present whose first experience with bees were mainly dead ones.

Things improved rapidly after that with lots of warm weather, the donation of an established colony and the capture of a couple of rare swarms. 2018 ended with 5 established colonies again and a small surplus of honey to sell to the Heligan shop.

For a more detailed description of the apiary's year, see the diary page on the RBG website: [www.roselandbeekeeping.org/apiary](http://www.roselandbeekeeping.org/apiary)

All in all, an eventful year at the Apiary. Hope 2019 is a good one too.

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