7th Kildare Rathangan Scouts 05/11/2019

Progress Report: Heritage grant Application No. 40

At the end of July we will put up the super chamber and a queen excluder and the bees have build that out with wax and have started a store of honey. We have also included some cubs and Scouts in the project by allowing them to come and observe the hive and be present at the inspections. Safe to say this project will span from beavers to ventures over the coming years.

In Late September we managed to harvest 3 part frames of Honey. 3 pounds in weight approx. The excitement amongst the Scout leaders and Scouts was unbelievable as they got to taste the liquid gold. The bees are thriving in the hive and they are producing lots of brood. The frames from which the honey was extracted have been replaced into the super chamber and the bees continue to refill the comb that they originally built.

The weather has turned cooler now and the bees are busy when the sun shines, other than that it’s too cold for them to be out. We have purchased a couple of additional suits and equipment over the past few months. We are at present feeding the bees fondant to insure they survive over the winter. They have also been treated for varroa mite.

This experience has been an amazing one for both leaders and Scouts.

Our plan is to increase to two hives or more next year. We are looking at getting a few small suits for the beavers so they can also come to the hives and get a basic idea of what honey and bees are all about.

Thank you to KCC for facilitating this great adventure for our Scouts. It’s lovely to see them taking a genuine interest in something so amazing.

Safe to say we have a few budding and very keen young beekeepers in the Rathangan area at present.