

It's been a bittersweet month for Miss Bee Haven

THIS MONTH, EMMA THOMPSON TALKS ABOUT THE IMPACT OF THE FLOODS ON HER HIVES AND THE BENEFITS OF BUYING FROM A SMALL BUSINESS.

Hello lovely readers! Welcome to my December column. I'm Emma Thompson, also known as @missbeehaven123 on social media. I'm an ethical beekeeper with a social media following of over 90,000 and the proud founder of Bee Haven Bodycare®.

Please follow me on my social channels - Tiktok, Instagram, and Facebook.

I'm thrilled to share that I recently won the columnist of the year award from Local Women Magazine! The I Am Beauty Local Women Magazine Business Awards, held at the Europa Hotel on November 4, was an amazing event and I am truly grateful for this wonderful accolade!

BEE BEAUTIFUL – Emma's Ensuring You Never Run Out of Your Favourite Face Cream!

Okay, I might be exaggerating a little, but I know how concerned customers can be when their favourite face and eye cream is out of stock.

Out of the 200+ products I offer, I always make sure to keep the essentials in stock - The Beekeepers Intense Skin Balm®, Hair & Bee® Shampoo Bars, Let's Bee Honey Facial Soap, and the product I want to highlight in this



month's column – Bee Beautiful Face Cream® & Eye Cream.

I cannot emphasise enough how much I want you to try this cream, not because I want your money, but because I want you to experience the amazing natural benefits it provides for your skin. It deeply nourishes and hydrates all day, suits all skin types, including sensitive skin, and works for all ages!

You see, as a cosmetic formulator and

encountered storms in the past, we had never experienced any issues with the water level until Storm Babet and Ciaran hit us. For almost two weeks, we had torrential rain, causing the water levels to rise and damage the bridge, making it impossible for us to access the hives and rescue them.

Fortunately, our hive-stands were elevated enough, saving all but one hive. Unfortunately, the hive closest to the edge of the island may have been damaged by water. This particular colony was already categorised as 'weak' due to a wet July that prevented the newly mated queen from properly populating the colony before autumn.

Even with our assistance, we didn't expect this hive to survive the winter, so if there has been water damage, it will only hasten the inevitable loss of the colony. Currently, we are making plans to repair the bridge and regain access to the island as soon as possible. In the meantime, all our hives have enough honey stores and winter-feed to sustain them. My heart goes out to all beekeepers who were affected by the flooding, especially in the Newry and Downpatrick areas.



manufacturer, I have learned that spending a fortune on big brand creams doesn't always guarantee great results for your skin. Have you noticed a change in your 'go-to' moisturisers and nourishing products lately?

Many of my customers at my shop in Ballygowan have expressed their disappointment with their long-trusted brands. Even though the packaging may appear the same, the results are different. What on earth is going on?

Well, ingredient prices have skyrocketed lately, and large companies have been reformulating their products with cheaper alternatives or omitting certain ingredients altogether. They often do a 'soft label change' without informing the consumers. So, if your skin feels different, it's probably due to their changes, not your skin.

But fear not! We have got you covered. Bee Haven Bodycare® is not owned by a massive global company - it's just my daughter and me. We are committed to producing genuinely honest, natural, and high-quality products.

Our creams are made with our own beeswax and honey, along with other quality ingredients like witch hazel, jojoba, cottonseed, and vitamin E.

Our Bee Beautiful range consists of three products, all containing honey and beeswax - Bee Beautiful Face Cream® - fragrance-free (£13.99), Bee Beautiful Magnesium Lite Lotion with Rose Geranium and Lavender, Sesame Oil, and Magnesium Chloride (£19.99, great for oily skin), and Bee Beautiful Eye Cream with Colloidal Oatmeal (£9.99) fragrance free.

To further encourage you to give our products a try I would like to offer you 15% off our full range for the month of December, including our Christmas gifting range. But hurry, our stock flies out and we only make small batches.

Emma x

AT THE HIVES



Emma waist-deep in flood water trying to access her hives

We recently faced a challenging situation at Bee Island, where we keep half of our beehives. Located on a beautiful wetland near Dundonald, in a rewilded landfill site, Bee Island is a tiny land mass with enough space for about 10 hives.

It is connected to the mainland by a small bridge over the water. While we've



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online code or present in-store, one use per customer, 15% off full range, cannot be combined. Exp. 31.12.23