

Colony Behind Hung Tiles - Farmhouse – Horam Surrey

We were contacted by the owner of a 16th century farmhouse who, although he had lived with bees behind the hung tiles on the other side of his bedroom wall for 3 years, and which kept that part of the inside wall nice and warm, had decided that clearing up 40 + bees a day from the bedroom was getting a bit much.



The comb was removed and brood comb placed into frames where possible. The bee vac was used continuously during the extraction, with the majority of the bees being relocated into the nuc

The tiles were hanging by old wooden pegs to the batons (not a nail in sight) and only held in place by a little lime mortar. The tiles were carefully removed with only a few breakdages. The colony had swarmed earlier in the year so were not as big as they would have been. The homeowner was given a few pounds of honeycomb which was placed in a flour sieve above a Pyrex bowl - which they were very happy with.



Before



After



It's quite late in the season to rehome bees so we gave them some drawn comb with stores. We'll inspect in a few weeks.

Update: The bees are queenright, and very busy processing nectar and syrup!

Extraction Team – Sarah Rapley & John Farrow – Sept 7th 2024