

Council Meeting 11th October 2008

Fifteen representatives from ten Branches together with the four officers attended the Council meeting in October.

There have been discussions with the KCAS about the future of KBKA at the Detling Showground. KBKA are clearly very welcome and we will have the use of the Margaret Calder Pavilion until at least after the 2009 County Show. We may have a different style of marquee in 2009. All the electrical equipment we use must be tested in accordance with current legislation. KBKA is likely to be part of the 'ECO village'. Information about the BBKA event 'Smokers in Whitehall' was discussed.

James Cash reported a satisfactory financial position for the current year. Any decision on investing some of our cash reserves in the stock market was deferred to the December meeting.

Officers: Examinations Secretary There were no volunteers so this was left vacant
Webmaster Steve Turner

Representatives: BeeCraft John Hendrie
BDI John Hendrie
BBKA ADM Brian Palmer
NHS Peter Bashford, Mike Wall & Clive Watson

We still need additional people to help run the County Show at Detling next year. Dave Wood will be happy information to interested people.

It was agreed to sponsor members of KBKA who are successful in the BBKA Basic Assessment to refund the full £15 entry fee.

Steve Turner has updated the KBKA website and has provided a facility for each branch to manage its own area to publish news and events. Some branches still haven't contacted Steve to obtain information and training. Thank you Steve.

It was agreed to put a proposal to the BBKA ADM to reduce the geographical area where outbreaks of Notifiable bee diseases are found from 10 to 2 square kilometres.

Public & Products Liability Insurance for Members

BBKA has an insurance policy that covers individual beekeepers, who are members of the BBKA whether joining as individual members, or as registered or partner members of their local association that is in turn a member of the BBKA.

The Public Liability relates to beekeeping activities of those members noted above in the UK and has a £5,000,000 limit of liability.

A notice of cover is available for members attending farmers markets etc., where proof of cover is required.

The Public Liability insurance also covers officers of branches and associations undertaking their activities in connection with their group.

In addition the insurance covers product liability up to £5,000,000.

For information on the above insurance please contact BBKA Headquarters.

In addition to the above cover the BBKA offers a policy to cover all risks insurance, primarily for branch and association apiary and other beekeeping equipment including trophies and display equipment. Further information and costs for this policy can also be obtained from BBKA Headquarters.

KENT BEE-KEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

A company limited by guarantee, Registered No. 238630 Registered Charity No. 222946
Registered Office: National Beekeeping Centre, RASE, Stoneleigh Park, Kenilworth. CV8 2LG



No. 41 COUNTY NEWSLETTER December 2008

Happy Christmas to all Beekeepers and Friends

Subscriptions

Your annual subscription was due on 1st October and most people have renewed by now. For those who do not renew by 1st December they cease to be members and lose any insurance cover. The cover you receive is detailed elsewhere in this newsletter. If you think you may have forgotten to renew your subscription then please send it to your Branch Treasurer immediately as the new BeeCraft list is sent off before Christmas. Forms can be downloaded from the Kent Beekeepers' website.

BBKA Written Examinations

The BBKA Module Exams will be held on 21st March 2009. All eight modules are on offer and each is a 1½ hour written paper. The syllabus and application form can be downloaded from www.britishbee.org.uk/examinations_and_assessments.php The fee is £18 for each module. Applications to John Hendrie by 31st January please.

National Honey Show

The following Kent Beekeepers won trophies at the National Honey Show:

Coronation Cup (Kent)	Peter Bashford	Bromley Branch
The Frank Crow Trophy	Peter Bashford	
Barnes Cup	Peter Bashford	
Hamlin Cup	Peter Bashford	
Tom Bradford Cup	Peter Bashford	
The Kent Wax Cup	Peter Bashford	
Coronation Mead Mazer	John Chapman	Medway BKA
Commemoration Cup	Dr J and Mrs D Cowan	Bromley Branch
Vincent Cup	Dr. J and Mrs D Cowan	
The Harry Grainger Trophy	Kit Erhardt	Orpington Branch
Smith Cup	Claire Joseph	Bromley Branch
Plender Cup	Claire Joseph	

Our congratulations to all the winners.

CALENDAR December 2008 – January 2009

Branch Events

Ashford

Fri 5th Dec 7:30 pm - AGM at St Mary's Community Centre, Rylands Road, Kennington.
Fri 9th Jan 7:30 pm - Social at St Mary's Community Centre, Rylands Road, Kennington.

Bromley

Sun 7th Dec 11:30 am Morning apiary meeting. Refreshments provided.
Sun 4th Jan 11:30 am New Year barbecue with mulled wine.
Tues 20th Jan 7:30 pm Norman Carreck, Secretary of NDB Board will be the speaker.
Meetings at the Branch Clubhouse, Kent House Road allotments.

Canterbury

Wed 10th Dec 7:30 pm John Hendrie on 'Work of the BBKA' then 'Brood disease recognition'.
Wed 14th Jan 7:30 pm Roy Dyche on 'Beekeeping in Africa'.
Wed 11th Feb 7:30 pm Richard Baker on 'Beeswax - Preparation and uses'.
All meetings at Stelling Minnis Village Hall.

Orpington

Wed 18th Feb 8:00 pm John Hendrie speaking on 'Queen rearing'.
Atomwide Ltd. 2 Ravensquay Business Centre, Cray Avenue, Orpington, Kent. BR5 4BQ

Sevenoaks & Tunbridge Wells

Tues 20th Jan 7:30 pm. Bob Smith from Medway on Raising the Bar - how to improve beekeeping.
Tues 24th Feb 7:30 pm Sudi Austin from Flynn's Bee Farm on 'Products of the Hive'.
St Edith's Hall, High Street, Kemsing. See Branch newsletter for directions.

Sidcup

Sat 6th Dec 2:00 pm Oxalic Acid Treatment at Ruxley Apiary.

Weald

Sat 6th-Dec AGM and Christmas Lunch.
Ring Nick Mengham for details and directions 01233 840660.

Dartford, Gravesend, Mid Kent, Westerham and Whitstable - No meetings notified.

County and Other Events

13th December Council Meeting at 10:00 am at Margaret Calder Pavilion, Detling.
Sat 10th Jan 2009 BBKA Annual Delegates Meeting at Stoneleigh.
Sat 7th March Council Meeting at 10:00 am.
Sat 14th March Central Association Spring meeting and AGM at Vauxhall, London.
Sat 21st March BBKA written examinations.
17th - 19th April BBKA Spring Convention at Stoneleigh, Warwickshire.
Sat 6th June Council Meeting and Annual General Meeting.
17th - 19th July County Show at Detling.
20th - 25th July Irish BKA Summer School at Gormanston. Celia Davis Guest speaker.
15th - 20th Sept International Apimondia at Montpellier, France.

Visit the NEW Kent Beekeepers web site: www.kentbee.com

Meetings in the next issue of the Calendar will cover February - April and please note that all details should be sent to John Hendrie, KBKA General Secretary, 26 Coldharbour Lane, Hildenborough TN11 9JT or email: bibba26@tiscali.co.uk or 01732 833894, by 20th Jan with items for inclusion in the next issue. Many thanks.

Bee Diseases Insurance

BDI Insurance only covers England and Wales. (Scotland and NI have differing levels of inspection that are not under the responsibility of DEFRA.)

The members of BDI are the Member Associations. The minimum payable by each Member Association to BDI Ltd as a condition of membership is £2.00 per annum for each Ordinary member. This insures 1-3 colonies. Associate Members, Junior Members and Friends are NOT insured.

Ordinary members can insure more colonies for the following additional premiums:

Up to 5 colonies (including the basic three) an additional £2.00
Up to 10 colonies (including the basic three) an additional £5.25
Up to 15 colonies (including the basic three) an additional £7.75
Up to 20 colonies (including the basic three) an additional £9.50
Up to 25 colonies (including the basic three) an additional £11.10

For 26 colonies (including the basic three) and up to a maximum of 39 please consult your Branch Treasurer. BDI insurance becomes effective each year from 1st January or the day that the Branch Treasurer receives your membership subscription and any additional BDI premium and is valid until December that calendar year.

BDI Compensation Rates for 2009

British Standard Brood Frame £1:90	Crown Board £11.30
All other Brood Frame sizes £2:70	Glass Quilt £14.50
British Standard Shallow Frame £1.40	Plastic Queen Excluder £4.00
All other Shallow Frame sizes £2:00	Wire Queen Excluder £14.55
Saleable Honey (30lb maximum) £1.50/lb	Slotted Steel Queen Excluder £6.00
Open Mesh Floors £10.00	

Subject to Condition - Excellent/As New, Good, Poor. No other property will be paid for i.e. hives are not covered. You must be insured for all colonies owned at the time of inspection otherwise any payments made will be void.

If two or more claims have been made in the previous two years compensation will be reduced by 25%. If three or more claims have been made in the previous three years compensation will be reduced by 50%.

The maximum compensation payable is £2,000 in any one year of insurance.

Compensation for Small Hive Beetle and Tropilaelaps Infestation

A contingency fund capped at £25,000 a year has been established for statutory destruction. The scheme will operate by providing compensation based on condition (Excellent - As New, Good or Poor as certified by the Bee Inspector), with a maximum of £75 per hive. The amount of compensation will be limited to the smaller of the maximum compensation amount determined by BDI or by a pro rata percentage of agreed sums so that the contingency fund is not overspent. This means that if the total amount of claims exceeds the level of the contingency fund some compensation will be available to all those affected. The actual payments will be calculated on a percentage basis to the full amount of the claim. The effect of this is that payments under these arrangements will have to be made annually when all claims for the year have been determined. Should these pests become endemic and statutory control abandoned, the BDI compensation provision will cease.

There are two Schemes - A & B:

Scheme A is for beekeepers with up to 39 colonies, who are members of an association. Scheme B is for beekeepers with 40 or more colonies. The schemes are managed by Mr. Bernard Diaper, 57 Marfield Close, Walmley, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands B76 1YD Tel: 0121 313 3112. E-mail: bdi@bee-dee.co.uk