



KENT BEE-KEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

County Newsletter No. 75 September 2014

Kent County Show 2014

The bee-keeping presence at the Kent County Show is stewarded by members drawn from the thirteen branches that make up Kent Beekeepers' Association plus Dover, Medway and Thanet beekeepers who are affiliated. We are fortunate enough to own a Bee Pavilion with facilities and storage adjacent to the marquee provided by the County show committee, containing a wide variety of stands and demonstrations to interest and intrigue the attending public.

Outside, a seating area for watching regular demonstrations of live bee manipulations listening to the accompanying commentary, safely separated by bee proof mesh. Skep making attracted much interest as did the board with bee body pictures with holes for child and adults' heads for much laughter and amusing photos.

Inside attractions included something for everyone, the emphasis on information and education, observation hives, a fruit and veg table to show the important pollination work our bees carry out, hive to jar for extracting the fruits of our bees' labour and sales stalls with honey tasting, honey, candles and fudge for sale to encourage purchases from the producers.

A mini honey show with a wide variety of classes from honey and wax through to cakes and photos with stewards to explain the finer nuances of the entries.

The bumble bee stand was constantly surrounded by a group of visitors fascinated by the colonies temporarily housed in see through containers, together with examples of wasps nests and other solitary bees homes.

Candle dipping as practised in days gone by was popular and the children weren't forgotten with the opportunity to design and make a badge, solitary bee house or roll a candle out of sheets of coloured bees wax.

The weather was kind to us this year with only the occasional shower, proving the doom-laden forecast wrong, and the show was deemed to have been a success projecting a professional and knowledgeable show to the public.

Lesley Fancote

KENT HONEY SHOW 2014 SPECIAL AWARD WINNERS

The Agricultural Society's Trophy
Exhibitor with the highest points in classes 1-13
Sue Clapson

Reginald Tower Rose Bowl
Best exhibit in candles
Paul Abbott

Novice Cup
Overall winner of classes 14 & 15
Sponsored by Freeman & Harding Jars
Lisa Wilson

Mead Cup
Overall Winner of classes 8 & 9
Sue Clapson

Best Honey Exhibit in Show
Sponsored by Mann Lake UK
Mark Woollard

Branch or Association Apiary
Winner of class 20
Medway Association

County and other events

BROMLEY AND ORPINGTON HONEY SHOW
Emmanuel Church, The Grove, West Wickham
Saturday, 20th September 2014
See website at www.kentbee.com/bromley for details

BIBBA 50TH ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE COMBINED WITH THE SICAMM BIENNIAL CONFERENCE 26th-28th September 2014

BIBBA (Bee Improvement and Bee Breeders' Association) is pleased to announce its 50th Anniversary Conference in collaboration with SICAMM (*Societas Internationalis Apis Melliferae Melliferae*) its European partner.

The conference, hosted by South Clwyd BKA, is open to everyone, with its core focus on bee improvement and the management of native and near native honey bees.

The three day event will take place from 26th-28th September 2014 at the Pavilion, Llangollen, North Wales, where delegates will learn about improving their own stocks of honey bees, whilst enjoying an excellent and varied social programme.

For those wishing to extend their visit, the Llangollen area benefits from stunning scenery and a variety of activities and culture to suit all tastes.

Enquiries to: Trisha Marlow 07812 518822 or
bibba.uk@gmail.com

Pre-registration is now open at: www.eventbrite.co.uk/event/8429168871

Further details of the event, when available, may be viewed at:

BIBBA: www.bibba.com

SICAMM: www.sicamm.org

NATIONAL HONEY SHOW

St George's College, Weybridge

Thursday, 30th October to Saturday, 1st November 2014

See website for opening times, show schedule etc.

55TH ANNUAL DELEGATES' MEETING OF THE BRITISH BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

The Chesford Grange, Chesford Bridge,

Kenilworth CV8 2LD

Saturday, 10th January 2015

Reminder

On 1st October 2014 Kent Beekeepers Association will start using the Bee Disease Insurance electronic receipting system. Training will take place for Membership Secretaries/Treasurers on **Saturday, 4th October 2014** at the County Showground, Detling. Further details will be circulated to those undertaking training nearer the time.

FOR SALE : Quantity of new and used beekeeping equipment (National). For details of items available contact Dick Sharp 01732 833838 lynnanddick@toller.plus.com

DON'T FORGET to advise your Branch Secretary and the County Membership Secretary of any change to your e-mail address, postal address or telephone numbers.