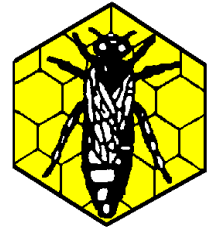


# Cardiff and South East Wales Beekeepers' Association



President: Prof. R.S. Pickard,

Chairman/Programme secretary : John King (01443 400798)

Treasurer: Jim Coombes/Lewis Roberts

Secretary/Publicity officer: Barbara Chick (029 20597275)

Newsletter Editor/Subscription Mailing: Dinah Sweet (029 20869242)

Spray Liaison: Les Chirnside (01873 880625)

Librarian: Edmund Thomas (02920 811928)

## Newsletter September 2008

Another month goes by and I'm still complaining about the weather!! I had hoped that we would have a few dry and warmish days so that the bees could collect more stores for the winter but many areas have had floods from the non stop rain. John Verran, the regional bee inspector, has suggested that we make sure all hives have enough stores to survive the long wet mild winter that is just around the corner. This means feeding a gallon of sugar syrup (at least) if you have taken honey away or taking the queen excluder out and leaving a full super of honey over the national brood chamber. I know many of us have had a very poor honey crop this year (as it has been so wet and cold) so honey will be scarce and also very expensive. Make sure you treat the Varroa mites with Apiguard now and then oxalic acid at the end of December, when there is no brood in the hive.

We had a well attended open day with many councillors hoping to see what we had done with the small grants they gave the association. Unfortunately the rain kept falling so we couldn't look at the bees and the shed however, a little later in the afternoon John Sweet led a small band of intrepid explorers down the soggy lane and they enjoyed the slippery experience, but no bees were flying!

Over the summer we have had beginners meetings every 2 weeks here at the teaching apiary. It would be good to receive feedback on this to see if this was useful and whether we should continue this next year. Some new beekeepers have asked to see extracting, but as this is so sticky and messy and there's so little honey around, we may have to show a video instead.

Don't forget the honey show next Saturday.

Dinah Sweet

### **Meetings for 2008**

Our association **Honey Show at the Rudry Show** on Saturday 13th September (Schedule see over). Bring exhibits for staging at about 11am. Open Judging will start at 12 noon where you can watch the honey etc. being judged (by me) and comments made.

Tuesday **October 14th at 7.30pm.** Lladaff village hall

Tuesday **November 11th at 7.30pm.** Llandaff village hall

Tuesday **December 9th at 7.30pm.** Llandaff village hall

Evening meetings will have speakers on different beekeeping subjects to be arranged.

Newsletter contributions If you have any contributions for the newsletter such as letters, articles, poems, cartoons etc. copied from elsewhere or made up please send them to Dinah Sweet, GraigFawr Lodge, Caerphilly, CF83 1NF. Advertising rates for commercial / semi-commercial traders at £5.00 per year for approx. 1/8th page in 12 monthly issues. One off adverts at 50p/month. Non-commercial adverts i.e. for sale of surplus equipment are free to members for a single entry.



## Honey Show Schedule Saturday 13th September at Rudry Show

All honey should be exhibited in standard honey jars with gold lids (screw or twist)

To ensure consistency of weight no light should be visible between the lower edge of the lid and the top of the honey. It is up to the exhibitor to enter the honey in the correct class but grading glasses will be available for guidance.

There is an entry fee of 25p for each entry in each class.

Prize winners (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup>) will receive a certificate.

There is a first prize of £2.00 for each class.

Classes 1 and 2 are open to bee keepers who have been keeping bees for less than 3 seasons. (ie started bee keeping after March 2006)

Class 1. 1 x 1lb jar of light honey

Class 2 1 x 1lb jar of medium or dark honey

The following classes are open to all

Class 3 2 x 1lb jars of light honey

Class 4 2 x 1lb jars of medium honey

Class 5 2 x 1lb jars of dark honey

Class 6 A 1lb jar of chunk honey (approx 50% of the honey should be cut comb)

Class 7 A section of cut comb presented in a suitable container. (Minimum gross weight 200g or 7 ounces)

Class 8 A honey fruit cake made to the following recipe.

Ingredients: 200g/7oz self raising flour, 175g/6oz honey, 110g/4oz butter, 175g/6oz sultanas, 2 medium eggs, 110g/4oz. glace cherries (halved).

Preparation; Preheat oven to 180°C/350°F /gas mark 4. Cream butter and honey together. Beat eggs well and add them alternately with sifted flour then fold in sultanas and cherries. A little milk may be added if necessary.

Bake in a buttered circular tin, 6½-7½ inches in diameter, for approximately 1½ hours

The cake should be placed on a white paper plate and remain covered with cling film until judging.

**Bring exhibits to show for staging before 11 am that day**

## BEEKEEPING SUPPLIES

Peter Shaw (Thorne's Agent) Wide range of beekeeping supplies in stock. Competitive prices and free delivery in Cardiff area. **Tel. 01633 897195**

**Peter Shaw, 19 St. Basil's Crescent, Bassaleg, Newport NP10 8PH**

## BEESWAX FOUNDATION

Foundation available at a straight exchange for wax. Beekeeping supplies available from stock.

Equipment new and used available.

**L & G R Chirnside, Bryn y pant Cottage, Upper Llanover, Abergavenny. NP7 9ES.**

**Tel. 01837 880625**

## FOUNDATION AND JARS

National foundation only - wired and unwired, deep, shallow and cut comb.

Jars and metal or plastic lids.

20p paid for returned boxes.

**Graham Loverage**

**Tel. 01495 762827**