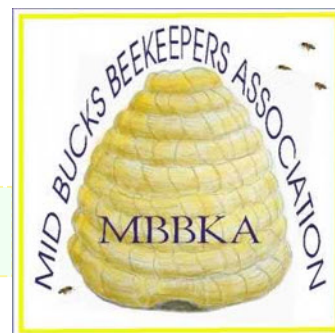


Mid Bucks Beekeepers Association



Newsletter for October 2011

AGM and Honey Show

This year's AGM will be held on **Wednesday 19th October** at 7:30 pm in the Bowls Club.

The **Agenda** will be as follows:

1. *Apologies for Absence*
2. *Minutes of 2010 AGM*
3. *Matters Arising*
4. *Receive Reports from*
 - Chairman
 - Programme Secretary
 - Membership Secretary
 - Education Secretary
 - Apiary Manager
 - Librarian
5. *Treasurer's Report*
6. *Election of Committee for 2011/2012.*

The following have been nominated:

Frank Rickett	- Chairman
Sean Stephenson	- Vice-chairman
Jean Savigar	- Secretary
Steve Adkins	- Treasurer
Sean Stephenson	- Apiary Manager
Clare Hayward-Smith	- Education Officer
Andrew Smith	- Deputy Apiary Manager
John Dadswell	- Membership Secretary
Karen Smith	- Honey Show Sec.
Paul Monument	- Librarian
Liz Tice	- Novice Beekeeper
Sean Kirwan	- Swarm Officer
Caroline Windley	- Committee member
7. *Election of President*
8. *Election of Vice-Presidents*
9. *Appointment of auditor for 2011/2012*
10. *Motion:*

Due to the £1 increase in the BBKA affiliation fees, the MBBKA subscriptions for 2010/2011 shall be changed to:

Full membership:	£27.00
Family Membership:	£37.00
Associate Membership:	£12.00
11. *Donations to Charities*
12. *Presentation of Basic Assessment Certificates*
13. *Any other business*
14. *Date of 2012 AGM*

Honey Show 2011

Don't forget to enter for our **Honey Show** on **Wednesday 19th October**. The schedule and entry form are given on pages 3 and 4 of this newsletter. Entries must be in by **Tuesday 18th**.

If you have only been keeping bees for one or two years there is a class specially for you.

Why not give it a go? It is great experience and the "Apiary Cup" is awarded each year to the best beginner's class entry.

Frame Competition

Those of you who took a numbered frame earlier in the year, please bring it with you to the AGM on Wednesday 19th.

Bring them in any container you like - nucleus box, display case - anything that is drip-proof, although we will set up a "quarantine area" at the side of the hall to collect any honey spills.

The frames will be judged by the Association President and prizes will be awarded for the heaviest frame, the most attractive frame and the least attractive frame!

If my frame is anything to go by, competition for the last category will be fiercest!

November Meeting

Our November meeting promises to be very special.

Ron Hoskins

will give a talk on

The "Swindon" Honey Bee

Wednesday 16th November at 7:30 pm
in the Bowls Club

Many of you will have read the articles in Beecraft and BBKA News by Ron Hoskins describing his observations that some bees appear to attack Varroa mites and bite chunks out of them.

Ron has conducted painstaking studies over a number of years observing thousands of mites under the microscope and has set up a breeding programme to select the bee colonies that cause most damage to the mites.

We are delighted that Ron has agreed to come and talk to us about this fascinating work.

More overpage ...



Bucks County Beekeepers Association AGM

As you know, Mid Bucks Beekeepers, together with Chalfonts, High Wycombe and North Bucks Beekeepers make up the Bucks County Beekeepers Association.

The AGM is held once a year and rotates around the Associations; this year it is the turn of Chalfonts Beekeepers and the AGM will be held at **7:30 pm** on **Wednesday 2nd November** at the meetings room of:

Chiltern Woodland Burial Park, Potkiln Lane, Jordans, Beaconsfield, HP9 2XB

In addition to the AGM business there will be refreshments and a talk on **Mead Making** by **John Gamble**. Potkiln Lane is situated off the A40 between Gerrards Cross and Beaconsfield. From the Mid Bucks area the easiest way to get there is to head for Beaconsfield then take the A40 towards Gerrards Cross. The lane is about 1 mile on your left, signposted to Jordans. The Burial Park is then about 400 yards on your left.

AGM Agenda

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of previous AGM
3. Matters arising from the minutes
4. Chairman's report
5. Treasurer's report
6. Education secretary's report
7. Presentation of Module certificates and Honey Show trophies
8. Reports from the local associations
9. Election of officers and members to the executive committee
10. Motion: *The AGM approves the distribution of £500 from BCBKA funds to each Local Association for the purposes of furthering beekeeping education and development.*
11. Motion: *The AGM approves the payment of £1000 from BCBKA funds to a beekeeping charity or research project selected by the meeting.*
12. Programme for 2012
13. Any other business
14. Date and venue of next AGM

Module Exams

A few people have expressed interest in studying for module exams this year so it is proposed that we set up three groups as follows:

Module 1, Honeybee Management and Module 2, Honeybee Products and Forage - starting in October with a view to taking the exams in March 2012.

Module 3, Honeybee Diseases, Pests and Poisoning - starting after Christmas in order to take the exam in November 2012.



The Modules 1 and 2 groups will be held on alternate Monday evenings starting on 17th October.

There is still time to join one or more of these groups. Even if you are unsure whether you want to go ahead and take the exams, by joining in the groups you will learn a lot more about beekeeping. They are very relaxed and are a good social event as well.

For more information contact Sean on **01296 623318** or email apiary@mbbka.org.uk.

Apiary Site Available

We have been offered an orchard site in Little Missenden which sounds very attractive.

If you are interested please contact John Dadswell on **01296 624091** or email membership@mbbka.org.uk.

Bucks County Beekeepers Honey Show

The Honey Show held on 24th September was a success.

In order to qualify for the BBKA Blue Ribbon award, we needed to attract over 100 entries. The closing date for entries was Wednesday 21st; in the morning we had only 93 but my plea for more at our evening meeting that day produced a rich reward. In the end we had 117 entries.



The full list of results can be seen on the Bucks County Beekeepers web site by following the link:

http://www.buckscountybeekeepers.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2011/09/BCB_2011_Honey_Show_Results_v2.pdf

Well done everyone.

In her excellent talk on 21st September, Margaret Holland listed the four important things to check when setting up our colonies for the winter:

Colonies are strong

Well fed

Disease free

Protected from predators

Let us hope that losses will be less this winter.

Frank Rickett, Chairman

Tel: 01494 866516

Email:

chairman@mbbka.org.uk



Mid Bucks Beekeepers Association 2011 Honey Show



To be held at the Bowls Club, Dobbins Lane, Wendover
On **Wednesday 19th October 2011** at 7.30 pm

Honey Show Secretary - Ernestine Matthews 01296 662181

Judge: Mr Bill Fisher

Judging will start at 7:30 pm. All exhibits must be in place by 7:15 pm.

MBBKA TROPHIES

Stuchberry Shield: for the MBBKA member with the best honey exhibit (Classes 1 to 5).

Laurie Webb Rosebowl: for the MBBKA member gaining the most points in Classes 1 to 14.

Laurie Webb Cup: for the MBBKA member with the highest award for a frame of sealed honey.

Peter Smith Cup: for the MBBKA member with the highest award for a wax cake.

W.E.Jones Cup: for the MBBKA member with the highest award in the cake class.

Apiary Cup: for the MBBKA beginner with the best honey exhibit (Class 13).

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

The classes are as follows (SEE HONEY SHOW RULES FOR EXHIBITING REQUIREMENTS , JAR TYPES, ETC.):

Classes 1 – 14 to be judged whilst the AGM is in progress

1. Two 1lb jars of light honey.
2. Two 1lb jars of medium honey.
3. Two 1lb jars of dark honey.
4. Two 1lb jars of naturally crystallized (not stirred) honey.
5. Two 1lb jars of soft-set honey.
6. One jar of liquid honey judged solely on taste and aroma (to be shown in a transparent 1lb jar).
7. One frame of capped honey for extraction (may be granulated).
8. One carton of (unwired) cut comb to be judged by appearance only.
9. One bottle of sweet mead.
10. One bottle of dry mead.
11. One cake of beeswax 200-255g (7oz – 9oz).
12. Two matching beeswax candles in holders. (To be lit by the judge).
13. Beginner's class: One 1lb jar of honey (a beginner is a person who has been bee-keeping for up to 2 seasons).
14. One honey cake – see recipe below.

Classes 15 – 18 to be judged in the hall by everybody.

The entry in each class with the highest number of votes will receive a small prize.

15. Home produced food item containing the exhibitor's own honey.
16. A bee related photograph.
17. Craft item made by the exhibitor with a clear bee related subject.
Could include needlework, woodwork, painting, pottery or wax-craft (but **not** candles).
18. Other hive product not covered in classes 1 to 17.

Recipe for honey and ginger cake – class 14.

Ingredients: 110g/4oz margarine, 55g/2oz caster sugar, 2 tablespoons honey, 2 large eggs,
220g/8oz flour, 1½ teaspoons baking powder, 1 teaspoon ground ginger, 55g/2oz
preserved ginger.

Method:

Pre-heat the oven to 180°C (350° F, gas mark 4).

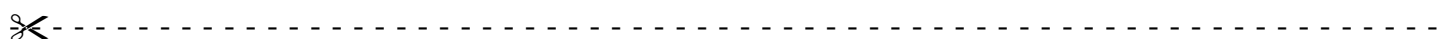
Cream margarine and sugar and beat in slightly softened honey. Gradually add the eggs, beating well after each addition. Sieve the dry ingredients together and add to the creamed mixture a little at the time, stirring in lightly, then add the chopped ginger, mixture should be of a dropping consistency. Put into a lined **18cm/ 7" round tin** and bake in a moderate oven approx 1 hour depending on oven.

Mid Bucks Beekeepers Association Honey Show Rules 2011



Failure to follow the following rules may disqualify the respective entry or points may be deducted.

1. All exhibits to classes 1-14 shall include or be the produce of the entrant's own hives.
2. An exhibitor may make multiple entries in each class but may receive only one award for that class.
3. Honey is to be exhibited in traditional 454g (1lb) BS 1777 squat jars with metal lacquered screw lids and flow-in seals. For classes 1,2 and 3, BS 1656 filters will be used to determine the colour of honey (available for use on day of show).
4. Where two jars of honey are required, they should be matching in colour and consistency.
5. Class 8: Cut comb is to be exhibited in standard 8oz rectangular containers with transparent lids.
6. Class 11: Beeswax may be exhibited either polished or unpolished, in a suitable container with a transparent lid or on a plate in an unsealed plastic bag.
7. Class 12: Candles may be rolled, dipped or moulded. Candles must be displayed in stable candle-holders.
8. Class 7: Each frame must be submitted in an undecorated bee-proof showcase. The full comb must be visible from both sides and the frame capable of being lifted out of the case.
9. Mead must be in clear colourless bottles without fluting or any decoration. The bottle should be between 20 and 30 fl. oz. and filled to within 1" of the bottom of a plain cork stopper.
10. Class 14: Cake to be displayed in a plastic bag which can be removed for judging.
11. Labels for each exhibit will be provided by show secretary immediately prior to the show and should be placed on each exhibit as follows:-
 - Jars (honey/mead) - label to be placed horizontally half an inch (12mm) up from base of jar.
 - Frame - label to be placed on top of frame and one on showcase, top right hand corner.
 - Cut Comb - label to be placed at top right hand corner of lid and one on side of the container.
 - Wax - label to be placed on plastic bag or container or on base of block.
 - Cake - label to be placed on plastic bag and one on plate.
 - Candle - label to be placed on card in front of exhibit.



Honey Show Entry Form 2011

To enter, please complete the entry form below and forward to the honey show secretary, Ernestine Matthews, Old Church Farm, Chapel Lane, Long Marston, Tring, Herts, HP23 4QT, or e-mail: o.c.m@btinternet.com

Entries to arrive no later than 18th October 2011. There is no charge for class entries.

Please enter me for the following classes, which I have ringed.

If multiple entries please also enter number in box:-

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18

Mr/Mrs	
Address	
Tel. Number	