



Mid Bucks Beekeepers Association November 2015 Newsletter

Membership Renewal

It is that time of year again, membership renewal. Attached is a copy of renewal form for 2016, our membership year runs for the calendar year. As agreed at the AGM we are not changing our membership fees for 2016, they will remain the same as this year. For the membership fees are summarised below. If you have any questions please contact Jonathan Palmer at membership@mbbka.org.uk. If you are a taking the New Beekeepers course starting 8th February 2016 your Associate membership for 2016 has been included as part of the course fee. The membership forms can also be found [here](#).

Membership Type	Annual Fee
Associate	£12
Full member	£30
Family Membership	£45

International Young Beekeepers Meeting

At the monthly meeting on 18th November, Ian Homer gave a brief presentation on the International Young Beekeepers Meeting and the bid for England to host the event in 2017. Further information on the bid can be found [here](#).

Module Study Groups

Each winter we run two study groups for the BBKA module examinations. Starting in January 2016 we will be studying for Module 1 "Honeybee Management" and Module 3 "Honeybee Pests, Diseases and Poisoning". If you have attained your BBKA Basic Certificate and would like to join either one or both of these study groups or would like to find out more please contact Susan Bogue at education@mbbka.org.uk. The syllabus for each module can be found [here](#).

National Honey Show

Well done to all our members who entered the National Honey Show in October. Every member who entered attained a top three place in at least one class. A full list of the results can be found [here](#). Bucks county retained the Smallholders Shield for most points scored by a county at the show, a fantastic result.



Helen Palmer came 2nd at National Honey Show in the class "Counter Display of Extracted Honey"

The year that was

It has been a strange beekeeping year for me. It started full of promise with a great Spring after a relatively mild winter. In May and June we carried out a lot of training in my apiary, so the colonies had been messed around a bit. Luckily I took a harvest late in June, expecting more in July. That is when everything seemed to stop, the flow disappeared and bees were eating their stores and in some cases needed to be feed. Autumn has been another warm one, I still had wasps around my apiary until mid November! The warm Autumn has given varroa a chance to re-establish, colonies that were clear in September are showing significant varroa drops this month. So what does Christmas mean for my beekeeping? I will be treating all my colonies with Oxalic Acid, melting down all the wax in the garage, moving colonies around the apiary, repairing equipment and dreaming about next year. **Merry Christmas everyone**

Programme of Events

20th January 2016

Association Meeting

Annual Association Quiz

7:30pm

Church of the Good Shepherd

8th February 2016

New Beekeepers Course Starts

Organiser, Caroline Windley

7:30pm

Church of the Good Shepherd

17th February 2016

Association Meeting

Frank Rickett, Winter Bees

7:30pm

Church of the Good Shepherd

20th February 2016

Bucks County BKA

Spring Seminar

10:00am

Memorial Hall, Wendover

15th March 2016

Association Meeting

Julian Parker, Asian Hornet

7:30pm

Church of the Good Shepherd

19th April 2016

Association Meeting

Beekeeping It's a Knockout

7:30pm

Church of the Good Shepherd

MBBKA AGM and Honey Show 21st October 2015

At our AGM in October we concluded another year of the Association with reports from our the Committee, awards for those who attained BBKA certificates and the appointment of new members to the committee.

Special recognition was given to Gill Peacock, who after many years serving the Association on the Committee and latterly as a Vice President has returned to being a "normal" member.

The minutes from the AGM can be found [here](#).

Whist the AGM was in progress the Honey Show was being judged by Sue Lang and Martin Buckle both commented on the high quality of all the entries so well done to everyone who entered.

We had 18 members entering the Show and a total of 91 individual entries.

The winners in each class are listed below

2 jars of light honey	Sue Carter
2 Jars of medium honey	Bill Fisher
2 jars of dark honey	Sue Carter
2 jars of crystallised honey	Sue Carter
2 jars of soft set honey	Betsy Duncan-Smith
2 jar for taste and aroma	Bill Fisher
1 frame of capped honey	Helen Palmer - The Laurie Web Cup
3 jars of honey for sale	Sue Carter - Best in show - The Stuchberry Shield
Carton of comb honey	Sean Stephenson
1 bottle of sweet mead	Betsy Duncan-Smith
Dry mead - no entries this year	
1 cake of beeswax	Jonathan Palmer - The Peter Smith Prize
2 matching candles	Sue Carter
Beginners jar of honey	Dorrie Tutton - The Apiary Cup
Honey cake	Helen Palmer - W E Jones Cup
Home produced food item	Ruth Stephenson
A photograph	Bill Fisher
A craft/woodwork item	Brian Bush

The **Laurie Web Rose Bowl** for the most points in classes 1-15 was awarded to Sue Carter.

Thank you to everyone who came along to the evening and made it such a success.

Approved Oxalic Acid Treatment of Honeybees

You will have seen in the Beekeeping journals that API-BIOXAL has been approved for use in the UK by the Veterinary Medicines Directorate.

The product appears to be Oxalic crystals in packs sufficient for 10 or 50 hives, with a use by date in 2018. The crystals can be mixed with sugar syrup for trickle treatment or employed directly or via vaporisation. In both cases it is recommended that safety clothing be worn including gloves, goggles and a face mask rated to FFP3. The manufacturer claims that application by trickle method is more effective than by vapourisation. This seems to contradict the data presentation at our September meeting.

The main point about the successful application of Oxalic Acid is that there should be no sealed brood. This can be achieved by either waiting to apply after a cold spell of at least 2 weeks or killing the sealed brood as recommended by Hasan Al Toufalia in September.

Andrew Smith will be running an Oxalic Acid application training day soon, once we have a date we will send out an email. In the meantime if you are planning to apply Oxalic Acid to your colonies, please follow the manufacturer's instructions and be aware you are dealing with a toxic chemical.

Equipment for Sale

One of our members is retiring from bee-keeping and is selling his relatively new equipment which is all in good order.

A full list of the equipment and the member's contact details can be found [here](#).

Annual MBBKA Quiz

We do not hold a winter meeting in December, so our next meeting will be on 20th January 2016.

The MBBKA annual quiz night will take place at this meeting. Attached are details for the evening, please help Liz organise the evening but letting her know if you will be attending and what your food order is. Liz can be contacted at secretary@mbbka.org.uk.

Quiz Night

Wednesday 20th January 2015

7:30 pm in The Church of the Good Shepherd

For the Quiz Night we have made arrangements with the local fish and chip shop to provide either fish and chips or chicken and chips.

You don't have to order food if neither option is to your taste but we must place the orders with the shop earlier in the day. We need to have numbers by 6 pm on Tuesday 19th January at the latest.

Please order for me:

_____ portions of Cod and Chips & £7.00 each

_____ portions of Chicken and Chips & £7.00 each

Total:

Name:

Phone Number:

To save us having to handle lots of small cheques, would you pay cash on the night but **PLEASE** let us know in advance if you cannot come and need to cancel your order as all food will have to be paid for.

You can put in your order by email or phone

to: Liz Tice

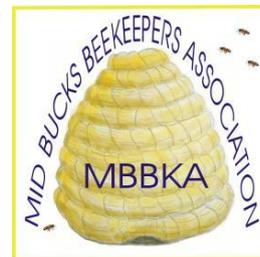
Tel: 01296 612618

email: liztice@hotmail.com

If you order by email and do not receive an acknowledgement from Liz, please try again. Liz will confirm receipt of all food orders.

Mid Bucks Beekeepers Association

Affiliated to the British Beekeepers Association (BBKA)



Membership Subscription 2016

The Association is open to all who have an interest in bees and beekeeping. Partners & family of all member grades are welcome to attend local Association events.

- **Full Member** For members keeping bees. Includes BBKA membership with monthly magazine, Public & Product Liability Insurance & Theft Insurance for members' hives.
- **Family Member** As for Full Membership, but includes additional 'partner' membership of the BBKA (no additional magazine) with full insurance cover for a partner or family member at the same address also keeping bees, collecting swarms etc.
- **Associate Member** For those with an interest in beekeeping and Association activities, but not currently keeping bees. Also for beekeepers who are Full BBKA Members of another association. **Associates should upgrade to Full or Family Membership when they get bees.**

Subscription Details

(Subscriptions run from 1st January to 31st December)

Please complete in BLOCK CAPITALS

Title: _____ Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Telephone number: Home _____ Work/Mobile: _____

Email address: (only used to send Assoc. information) _____

Number of Hives: _____ Location (address, postcode or O.S. reference) for notifying members of disease threats: _____

Please tick option required:

Full Member (includes £18 BBKA)	£30	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family (includes £30 BBKA)	£45	<input type="checkbox"/>
Associate (no BBKA)	£12	<input type="checkbox"/>

Are you able to collect swarms occasionally? **NO** **YES**

If you sell honey may we pass your details to potential customers? **NO** **YES**

Can we include your contact details in the Bucks County Yearbook?
(Name, Tel. No. & Town / Village only – distributed to Bucks county members) **NO** **YES**

Electronic Payments: As an option, electronic payments can be made using the bank details below.

Bank: HSBC Bank PLC Sort Code: 40-44-32 Account No.: 41396609

Account Name: Mid Bucks Beekeepers Association

Please insert member name in the payment reference field so we know whose payment it is

If paying electronically, please email form to membership@mbbka.org.uk so that we can update your membership information

Please indicate if you have paid electronically by ticking the box → →

Send cheque payments and form to:

(Make cheques payable to *Mid Bucks Beekeepers Association*)

**Jonathan Palmer, MBBKA Membership Sec.
14 Rook Wood Way, Little Kingshill, Gt. Missenden,
Bucks. HP16 0DF**

Gift Aid Declaration : Please treat all subscriptions and donations made to MBBKA in the past 4 years and in the future as Gift Aid unless I notify you otherwise. I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities or Community Amateur Sports Clubs that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I understand that MBBKA will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I give.

Signed: _____

Date: _____