



Mid Bucks Beekeepers Association October 2014 Newsletter



Grafted Queen Cells

Revised Constitution and an EGM

Thank you to everyone who attended the MBBKA AGM on 15th October. Of our 193 members 34 came to the meeting. This year there was a motion to make changes to the constitution. Sadly we did not have enough attendees at the meeting to form the required quorum of 25% of the membership. This means that the Committee cannot follow through on any of the propositions and motions passed at the meeting.

Some of the proposed changes to the constitution were recommended in order to avoid exactly this type of situation, the number of members required for a quorum and the possibility of proxy voting being two good examples.

The only way forward is for the Committee to call an Extraordinary Meeting and you will see below the Notice for the meeting to be held at our next monthly meeting on 19th November. Again the quorum for this meeting will be 25% of Fully Paid Up Members, please help the Association by attending the meeting. We will be publishing the propositions, motions and reports from the AGM before the Extraordinary Meeting so it should not take too long to cover the business. We need 50 members to attend the meeting; to help us plan the evening if you cannot attend please send your apologies to Liz Tice at secretary@mbbka.org.uk

Bee Improvement for All

In conjunction with the Bee Improvement and Bee Breeders Association (BIBBA) the Bucks County Beekeepers Association will be holding a "Bee Improvement for All" day. This is one of a number that BIBBA will be staging throughout the country on a regional basis. An all day event aimed at encouraging all beekeepers to improve their bee stock. The purpose is to help all beekeepers to continuously assess their colonies, so they have a good idea of which queens to cull and which colonies to take queen cells from when they need new queens.

There will be tuition on how to raise queens using queen cells that bees often present us with during the summer, as well as some simple "artificial" techniques that may be suitable for the more advanced beekeeper, or those working in groups.

Further details can be found on [here](#).

In the Apiary This Week

We have put our supers with stores below the brood box. This has several advantages, it gives the beekeeper direct access to the cluster for feeding and treatment as well as cleaning the supers of all the crystallised ivy honey. It was noted that the bees had already started on their winter stores as was evident from the amount of wax shavings below the hives. With such strong colonies this Autumn a weather eye should be kept on the level of stores and the risk of increased varroa counts.

Notice for the Extraordinary Meeting of MBBKA

An Extraordinary Meeting of the Mid Bucks Beekeepers Association to deal with the propositions, motions and reports given at the 2014 AGM will be held on 19th November 2014 at The Church of the Good Shepherd at 19:30. All members of the Association are invited to attend.

This meeting will be immediately followed by a talk by Peter Dalby on "Travels of a Beekeeper". Peter's talk incorporates different views of beekeeping in many different countries with different equipment types and demographics to deal with.

Programme of Events

8th November

Green Dragon Apple Day

10am— 4pm Green Dragon Eco Farm

9th November

**Bee Improvement for All
Roger Paterson**

Wendover Memorial Hall

Contact: bucksbifaday@gmail.com

19th November

**Extraordinary Meeting followed by
Peter Dalby**

Travels of a Beekeeper

7:30pm Church of the Good Shepherd

15th January 2015

**MBBKA Annual Quiz
with Fish and Chip Supper**

7:30pm Church of the Good Shepherd

2014 Honey Show Results

With 108 entries in the Honey Show this year's Show became a Blue Ribbon event. The Blue Ribbon is presented by the BBKA and The National Honey Show at events with more than 100 entries to the winner of Best in Show, won this year by John Dadswell.

A full list of the trophy and Class winners is given in the tables below, as you can see the prizes were spread across the entrants.

Cups Trophies & Prizes for Honey Show 2014

Judged by Mr Bill Fisher & Mrs Sue Carter

STUCHBERRY SHIELD For best honey in show	John Dadswell
LAURIE WEBB ROSEBOWL For most points in all classes	Sean Stephenson
LAURIE WEBB CUP For best frame class 7	Caroline Windley
PETER SMITH CUP For best wax cake class 11	Paul Monument
WE JONES CUP For best cake class 14	Elizabeth Browning
APIARY CUP For best beginners class class 13	Graham Hart
Best in Show	John Dadswell

Judged in the hall by everybody

Home produced food item	Helen Palmer
A bee-related photograph	Sean Kirwin
Craft item	Graham Hart
Other Hive Product	Caroline Luxford



Class 1	2 jars of light honey	John Dadswell, Best in Show
Class 2	2 jars of medium honey	Karen Smith
Class 4	2 jars of naturally crystallised honey	Karen Smith
Class 5	2 jars of soft set honey	Sean Stephenson
Class 6	1 jar for taste and aroma	Jonathan Palmer
Class 7	1 capped frame for extraction	Caroline Windley
Class 8	3 jars for retail sale	Frank Rickett
Class 9	1 carton of cut comb	Katherine Medhurst
Class 10	1 bottle of sweet mead	John Dadswell
Class 12	1 cake of beeswax	Paul Monument
Class 13	2 matched candles	Frank Rickett
Class 14	Beginners - 1 jar of honey	Graham Hart
Class 15	A honey cake	Elizabeth Browning
Class 16	Something to eat	Helen Palmer
Class 17	A bee related photo	Sean Kirwin
Class 18	A craft item	Graham Hart
Class 19	A hive product not in any other class	Caroline Luxford