

Council Meeting 6th June 2009

Seventeen representatives from eleven Branches together with the four officers attended the Council meeting in June.

It was reported the 'Living Land' event at Detling where about 3000 school children visit a variety of rural pursuit stands in about four hours had been very successful and most had visited the KBKA stand to learn about honey bees. The police are evaluating a DNA type marking security system for bee hives and we agreed to assist in the trials. Concern was expressed about what the cost might be.

The accounts for year ended 30 September 2008 were approved. There was an overall surplus of about £3000 when the branches are included. James Cash was thanked for the work in preparing the accounts.

It was agreed to raise the Ordinary subscription from £39 to £40. BeeCraft will cost £18, BBKA £14, BDI £2 and the Branch allocation £6. As these components amount to £40 there will be none of the subscription going to the County. The County part will be funded from the gift-aid and interest and surpluses on some events.

Membership stands at 608 after the April returns about 100 up on the same time last year.

John Hendrie

KENT SHOW

The Kent Show was held again at Detling on 17 – 19 July 2009 and attendance was up from last year. We did end up with our large marquee which enabled display stands to spread out. We had three observation hives and each of them gained a lot of interest. There was, weather permitting, opportunities to see in an open hive. Microscopy, hive to jar, , bumble bees, information and education were good talking points. Children (large and small) were catered for with candle rolling and a new concept of 'be a bee'. This will be refined for next years show. Sudi Austin came along with examples of hive products. It showed that there is more than just honey from the hive. Dr John Cowan won the photographic competition. Next year we hope to include skep making as a display. Many thanks to all who helped man the show. There was good collaboration between the various associations in Kent. We were short of staff on Saturday and Sunday so do try and help next year. If you have queries or suggestions about the show or would like to register your help for next year please contact me on bsmith12@ntlworld.com If I am not the chief steward next year I will pass your comments on.

Bob Smith Chief Steward (What a grand title!)

HOWLETTS WILD ANIMAL PARK

This is situated at Bekesbourne Road, Canterbury, CT4 5EL

Howletts wish to play a part in educating the public about bees and beekeeping.

To this end they would like someone to set up an out-apiary in the park, and be available to demonstrate bees to the public.

The commitment is completely open to negotiation. They have no pre-conceived ideas.

Anyone interested should contact Dave Sutton at Howletts. Phone: 01227 721286.

Or ring Brian Palmer on 01622 717483 for further information.

KENT BEE-KEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

A company limited by guarantee, Registered No. 238630 Registered Charity No. 222946
Registered Office: National Beekeeping Centre, RASE, Stoneleigh Park, Kenilworth. CV8 2LG



No. 45 COUNTY NEWSLETTER August 2009

Peter Oldreive

We are sorry to report the death of Doctor Peter David Oldreive aged 75 years on June 23, 2009 peacefully at his home after a short illness. Beloved husband of Margaret, devoted father of Caroline, Janine, Alison and Susan and father-in-law of Philip, Rob and Steve. Also a proud grandfather of six grandsons.

He was an active member of Canterbury Branch Kent BKA for many years. He was its treasurer for more than twenty years and also Council rep. He passed his BBKA Intermediate Examination with distinction in 1983 and was the winner of the Robert Hammond award that year. Two years later he became a BBKA Master Beekeeper and he went on to obtain the National Diploma in Beekeeping, the highest award in beekeeping. He was also a BBKA Examiner at all levels.

He often attended Apimondia and many of the weekend courses held by Central Association and was always willing to talk to all beekeepers at these events. When he retired from General Practice he went on many cruises as ships doctor!

He will be greatly missed by all who knew him. A service to celebrate his life held at Sturry Church on 6th July was attended by many beekeepers.

John Hendrie

National Honey Show

The National Honey Show will be held at St. Georges College, Weybridge, Surrey from 29 - 31 October. How about visiting the event and attending the lectures or one of the twenty workshops being held this year? Why not enter the Kent Honey Show or the Open classes as there was no competition at Detling this year? There is an extra class for six 1oz wax blocks this year. The schedule can be downloaded from www.honeyshow.co.uk. I am prepared to deliver stage and bring back entries delivered to me at Hildenborough on Tuesday 27th October because I travel over to Weybridge on the Wednesday to set things up.

John Hendrie

CALENDAR August – October 2009

Branch Events

Ashford

- Sun 2nd Aug 2:30 pm Honey Harvest and discussion on ‘How and why to use Apiguard’.
Sat 22nd Aug 2:30 pm Medication and Stimulating Autumn Build-up.
Sat 5th Sept Honey Show and Beekeeping Exhibition at Aldington Village Hall.
Sat 12th Sept 2:30 pm Extra Apiary Meeting. - Practical follow-up to the Honey Show.
Apiary meetings at the Branch Apiary, Cheeseman’s Green, Mersham.

Bromley

- Sun 16th Aug 3:00 pm Apiary meeting. Refreshments provided.
Sun 30th Aug KHLG Open Day Allotment Open Day.
Sun 6th Sept 11:30 am Apiary meeting. Refreshments provided.
Sat 19th Sept Bromley and Orpington Honey Show at Emmanuel Church, The Grove, West Wickham, BR4 9JS.
Sun 4th Oct 11:30 am Apiary meeting. Refreshments provided.
Apiary Meetings at the Branch Clubhouse, Kent House Road allotments.

Canterbury

- Sat 1st Aug 2:30 pm Autumn preparations at Richard Bakers Apiary.
Autumn & Winter meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm at [Stelling Minnis Village Hall, Bossingham Rd, Stelling Minnis CT4 6AG](#)
Ring Joan McAllister for details: 01304 824660.

Dartford

- Sat 8th Aug 3:00 pm Meeting at the Branch Apiary.
Sat 12th Sept 3:00 pm Meeting at the Branch Apiary.

Gravesend

No meetings notified. Contact Lesley Fancote 01474 702666 for details of meetings.

Mid Kent

- Sun 30th Aug Barbecue and Petanque challenge at The White House, Hunton.
5th - 6th Sept ‘Plant to Plate’ at Leeds Castle
Contact Barbara Harris for details 01622 880440

Orpington

- Saturdays 2:30 pm Demonstrations at Beeche Centre, High Elms Country Park, Shire Lane, Farnborough. BR6 7JH See newsletter for details.

Sevenoaks & Tunbridge Wells

- 8th August & 5th & 27th Sept 2:00 pm Meetings at Barrwood Apiary.
15th August & 3rd October 2:00 pm Meetings at Hilbert Road Apiary.
Tues 15th Sept 7:30 pm St Edith’s Hall Kemsing - Richard Knight - ‘A beekeeper’s Diary’.
Sat 26th Sept Honey Show at Otford Church Hall.
Tues 20th Oct 7:30 pm St Edith’s Hall Kemsing - Nick Withers - ‘Slovenian Beekeeping’.
See Branch newsletter for details.

Sidcup

- All Saturdays Afternoon meetings at Ruxley Apiary, Honeydale Farm.

Weald

- Sat 15th Aug 3:00 pm Meeting - details to be advised.

- Sat 12th Sept Branch Honey Show at Sandhurst Village Hall.
Sat 17th Oct 3:00 pm Meeting - details to be advised.
For details contact Nick Mengham 01233 840660 or 07884 231514

Westerham

- Wed 30th Sept 8:00 pm Meeting details to be advised.
Wed 28th Sept 8:00 Annual General Meeting and Honey Competition.
Meetings at Westerham Hall, Quebec Avenue, Westerham.
Please see Branch newsletter for details.

Whitstable

No meetings notified - Please contact Julie Coleman for details - 01227 751719.

County and Other Events

- 7th - 9th Sept Society International Conservation of *Apis mellifera mellifera* SICAMM Conference at Aviemore., Scotland. Details from John Hendrie
15th - 20th Sept International Apimondia at Montpellier, France.
Sat 3rd Oct BBKA Forum at Stoneleigh.
Sat 10th Oct 10:00 am Council Meeting at Margaret Calder Pavilion, Detling.
29 - 31 Oct National Honey Show at St. Georges College, Weybridge.
Sun 15th Nov Lecture day at Lenham. Details to be confirmed.
Sat 12th Dec 10:00 am Council Meeting at Margaret Calder Pavilion, Detling.
Sat 16th Jan 2010 10:00 am BBKA ADM at Stoneleigh.
Sat 13th March Medway BKA Open Lecture. Details to follow.
Sat 20th March BBKA Exams. Modules 1 to 8 are available. £18 per module.
16 - 18 April BBKA Spring Convention at Stoneleigh.

Congratulations

There are more successes to report from the BBKA:
Three beekeepers have passed the **Basic Assessment** from Canterbury Branch:
Stuart Andrews, Adrian Davis and Joan McAllister

Module 1: Honeybee Management.

Adrian Davis (Canterbury) Credit.

General Certificate in Beekeeping Husbandry

Ian Stell (Sidcup)

Congratulation to these beekeepers on these excellent successes.

Kent Show Results

There was only one class this year at the County Show at Detling and that was for a Colour print photograph. Our thanks to Mary Hill for judging the entries.

- First Dr. John Cowan
Second Peter Fancote
Third David Wood

Visit the Kent Beekeepers web site: www.kentbee.com

Meetings in the next issue of the Calendar will cover October - December and please note that all details should be sent to John Hendrie, KBKA General Secretary, 26 Coldharbour Lane, Hildenborough TN11 9JT or email: bibba26@tiscali.co.uk or tel: 01732 833894, by 20th Sept. with items for inclusion in the next issue. Many thanks.