

Surrey Beekeepers Association

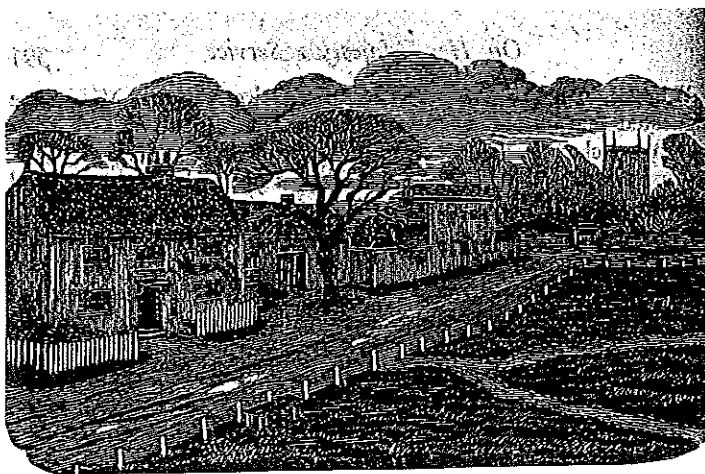
CROYDON DIVISION

Chairman Mark Stott 0208 684 1098
Treasurer Tamar Cavett 0208 406 9258
Secretary Joyce Atkinson 0208 657 2817

www.croydonbeekeepers.co.uk



OCTOBER 2011



The Green



A couple more of the prints from 'Lark Rise to Candleford'

DATES TO REMEMBER

SUNDAY 9th. OCTOBER

Hartley Down Apiary tidying up day - please come and help if just for half a day
10 a.m. or 2 p.m.

27th. to 29th. OCTOBER

NATIONAL NONEY SHOW

At St. George's College, Weybridge, Surrey, KT15 2QS
Not far away to see entries from all parts of the country and abroad too
together with many trade stands and a series of lectures - not yet too late to
enter some of the many open and the Surrey classes - full information and schedule
from Sandra Rickwood 02033 558716

If you can spare some time during these days and could act as a steward
contact Clive Watson - email watson30@talktalk.net

Please let me know if you have or are going to enter as I may be able to
take yours on the 26th.

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

Some WBC hive parts - contact Mr. Stephen for details - 07957 318981

5th.NOVEMBER

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our, Croydon's will be at 2-30 p.m. at the Scout Hall
Hillars Heath Road, Coulsdon.

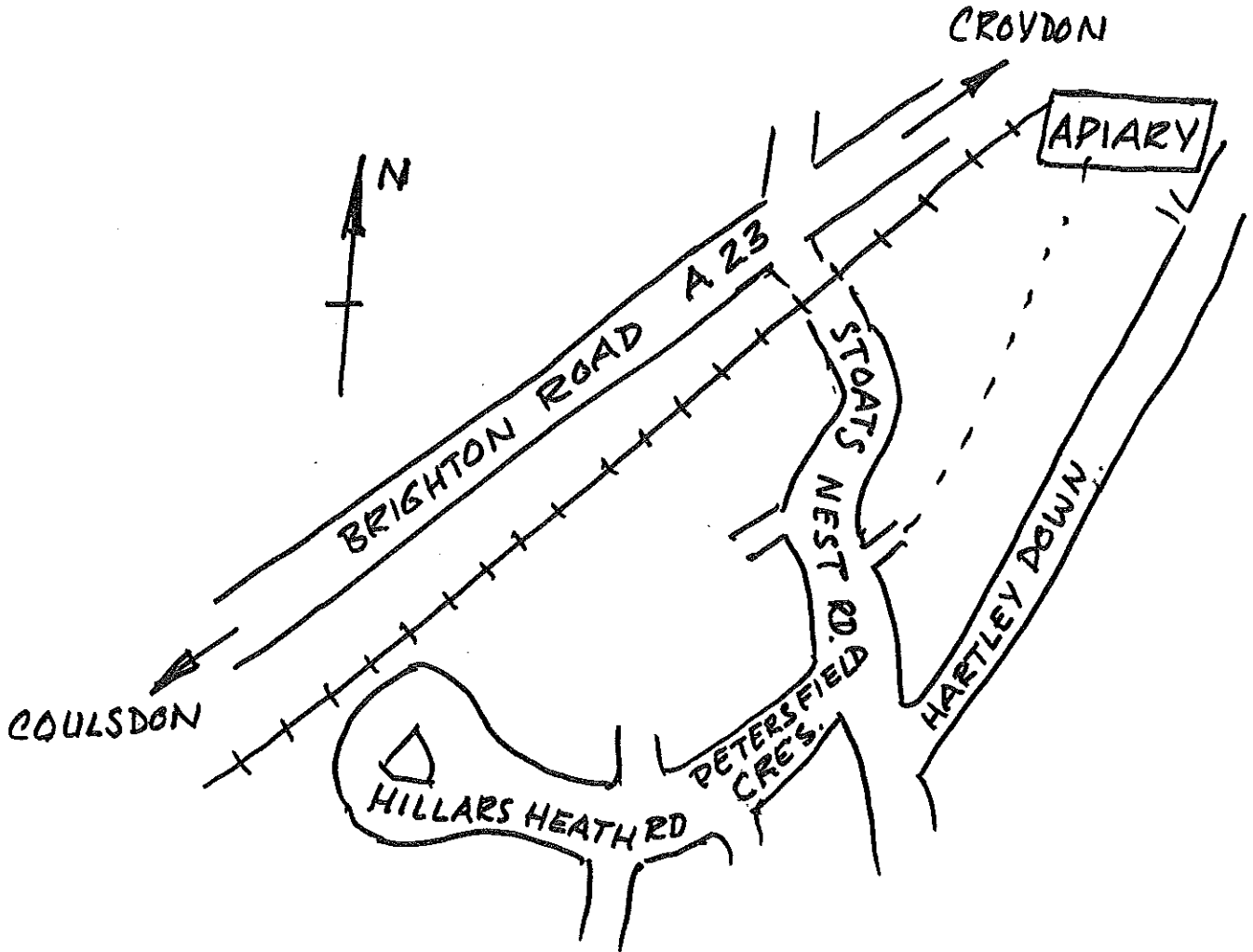
The meeting will be followed by a talk and refreshments.

At the last committee meeting subscription rates for next year were considered and the following will be proposed at the meeting for approval:

Full member.....£43-00p Partner.....£13-00p Friend.....£7-00p
Junior.....£7-00p Rental of hive sites.....£8-00p each

Bee Disease Insurance for 2 colonies is included for Full and Partner memberships.

Our treasurer will be pleased if you are able to pay your subs at this meeting
since this will ease her job of collecting funds most of which goes to
Surrey BKA



Coastguard rescues speedboat attacked by swarm of bees

● The coastguard was called out after a speedboat was attacked by a swarm of bees, forcing the occupants to abandon the vessel.

The speedboat was travelling along the River Stour, near Harwich, Essex, just before midday when it was invaded by the insects.

The four occupants managed to float an emergency dinghy over the side of their boat and alerted the coastguard.

It is believed that all four were stung, with one receiving at least three stings, before

they managed to paddle away.

A spokesman for the coastguard said: "Thames Coastguard was alerted to a speedboat on the River Stour with four people on board, who were struggling with a swarm of bees.

"Harwich RNLI inshore lifeboat was tasked to attend and render some assistance and also recover the people from their small inflatable.

"The lifeboat brought the people back to their boat and returned to the station once the situation was under control."

Croydon Honey Show 1st October 2011

A big THANK YOU to all those who took part in the show.

The turnout was excellent with 23 competitors, resulting in a marvellous 111 entries, the highest record since 2001.

The various grades of honey attracted many entries and they certainly presented a delightful display.

Once again the "General Interest" class lived up to its name, with a wide ranging selection of exhibits.

Weighing the "Heaviest Frames" left a few sticky fingers contrasting with the "Combs for Extraction" which looked pristine.

The Judge was thorough but very helpful in leaving written comments where entries were not 100% - in all "Honey Classes" it pays to have very good eyesight or to be diligent in the use of a magnifying glass and torch to carefully check each jar and contents for any slight imperfections. Hopefully our Judge will be back for an evening talk at a later date this Winter, when he will have an opportunity to give us his tips and techniques in perfecting our future entries.

Congratulations to Penny Chew who won, by just one point, the D J Campbell Cup and also whose 'medium honey' won her the Blue Ribbon for 'Best Exhibit in Show'. The Kirkup Memorial Cup was won by Frank Castrique, Adam Dorman won the N T Haines Cup with his first ever entry and the Ellen Coates Memorial Plate was won by Ann Parker for the best Honey Cake.

Finally I would like to thank all those who offered their time setting-up, organizing and dismantling, thus ensuring a successful and enjoyable Honey Show.

AND FINALLY

A letter to our Prime Minister. If you are an old Grumpie or even a young Grumpie (like me), do you want to join the club?

Dear Mr. Cameron,

Please find below our suggestion for fixing England's economy.

Instead of giving billions of pounds to banks that will squander the money on lavish parties and unearned bonuses, use the following plan. You can call it the Patriotic Retirement Plan:

There are about 10 million people over 50 in the UK work force. Pay them £1 million each severance for early retirement with the following stipulations:

- 1) They MUST retire - ten million job openings - unemployment fixed
- 2) They MUST buy a new **British** car. Ten million cars ordered - car industry fixed
- 3) They MUST either buy a house or pay off their mortgage - housing crisis fixed
- 4) They MUST send their kids/grandkids to school/college/university - Crime rate fixed
- 5) They MUST buy £100 WORTH of alcohol/tobacco a week.....and there's your money back in duty/tax etc.
- 6) Instead of stuffing around with the carbon emissions trading schemes that makes us pay for the major polluters, tell the greedy bastards to reduce their pollution emissions by 75% within 5 years or we shut them down.

It can't get any easier than that! And if more money is needed, have all members of parliament pay back their falsely claimed expenses and second home allowances.

Other points you might consider:

Put the pensioners in jail and the criminals in a nursing home. Then the pensioners would have access to showers, hobbies and walks. They'd also receive unlimited free prescriptions, dental and medical treatment, wheelchairs etc. They'd have constant video monitoring so if assistance was needed they'd have immediate help. Bedding would be washed twice a week, and all clothing would be washed and ironed as needed. There would be a guard to check on them every 20 minutes and staff to bring their meals and snacks to their cell.

They would have family visits in a suite built for that purpose. They would have access to a library, weight room, spiritual counselling, pool and education. Simple clothing, shoes, slippers, PJ's and legal aid would be free, on request.

There would be private, secure rooms for all, with an exercise outdoor yard, with gardens for anyone who felt the need to exercise.

Each senior could have a PC a TV radio and daily phone calls and there would be a board of directors to hear complaints, and all guards would have a code of conduct that would have to be strictly adhered to.

The criminals would get cold food, be left all alone and unsupervised day and night. Lights off at 8pm, and showers once a week; live in a tiny room and pay £1,500.00 per week without any hope of ever getting out.

Think about this (more points of contention):

COWS

Is it just me, or does anyone else find it amazing that, during the mad cow epidemic, our UK government could track a single cow, born almost three years ago in Appleby, right to the stall where she slept in the county of Cumbria? And, they even tracked her calves to their individual stalls.

But they are unable to locate 225,000 illegal immigrants wandering around our country. Maybe we should give each illegal immigrant a cow.

THE 10 COMMANDMENTS

The real reason that we can't have the Ten Commandments posted in a courthouse or Parliament, is this - You cannot post 'Thou Shalt Not Steal', 'Thou Shalt Not Commit Adultery' and 'Thou Shalt Not Lie' in a building full of lawyers, judges and politicians. It creates a hostile work environment.

It is time for us grumpy old folk of Britain (& the rest of the Anglosphere) to speak up!

High-speed rail 'a £32 billion waste'

● The Government's £32 billion high-speed rail network will be a waste of money, a Right-wing think tank has claimed.

The Institute of Economic Affairs has argued it will cost taxpayers £1,000 each.

The first stage of the line, which will see trains go through the Chilterns at up to 250mph, is due to be completed by 2026.

The line will then lead to north-west and north-east England.

The institute said the economic benefits were uncertain, and the line would consume a "disproportionate amount of energy" from the National Grid. "High Speed Two is another political vanity project, like Concorde and the Millennium Dome," the report said.