

Croydon Beekeepers Assoc. Newsletter

A division of Surrey
Beekeepers Association

Founded 1879

October 2015

Honey shows and AGMs – and final preparations for winter

This month's newsletter is a little late as I've been on a trip to drought-stricken (but still beautiful) California. The miles upon miles of Almond plantations I drove past in the San Joaquin Valley made me think of all the migratory beekeeping that goes on and the risks it entails. I'm glad that we keep things local in Surrey!

Unfortunately I missed the Croydon Honey Show because I was away however I know my reliable sources will provide a full report for next month's newsletter!

In the meantime there is of course the National Honey



CROYDON BEEKEEPERS

Show from 29 to 30 October in Weybridge, plus the Croydon and Surrey AGMs. I believe that stewards and volunteers are still needed for the National Honey show so please do consider it – full information is included below.

I hope winter preparations have gone well, the weather forecast is predicting 'proper' cold weather later this week . . .

- Tracey

Chairman: Mark Stott
Secretary: Joyce Atkinson
Treasurer: Tamar Devane
Editor: Tracey Carter



Dates for your diary



Croydon Beekeepers Association
AGM: 24th October, Warlingham

National Honey Show: 29th to 30th
October, Weybridge

Surrey Beekeepers Association
AGM: Saturday 28 November,
Cobham

For further information visit
www.croydonbeekeepers.org.uk

Croydon Beekeepers Association AGM (Croydon Division – Surrey Beekeepers) – Saturday 24th October 2015, 2.00 p.m., Methodist Church Hall, Limpsfield Road, Warlingham CR6 9LE

A reminder that our Annual General Meeting will be taking place in a few weeks' time: this is an opportunity for you to have your say in how your Association is run and elect our officers for next year.

Please send seconded nominations for the elected posts to our Honorary Secretary Joyce Atkinson or

hand them in to her before the meeting commences in the afternoon. Also please do let Joyce know if you are willing to be nominated as a committee member. No great experience of beekeeping needed.

The Hall is situated along the Limpsfield Road about 200 yards from Warlingham Green (almost opposite Mayes Close).

See attached PDF file which outlines the agenda; last year's minutes to follow.

The formal part of the meeting will be followed by tea and a talk by Bob Smith on 'Managing the Workers'.

pp Joyce Atkinson, Honorary Secretary, Croydon Beekeepers Association

Surrey Beekeepers Association AGM- Saturday 28 November 2015, 2.00 p.m., Cobham

Notice is hereby given that the 137th Annual General Meeting of the Surrey Beekeepers' Association will be held on Saturday 28 November 2015 at 2.00 p.m. in Cobham Village Hall.

The meeting will be followed by tea and a talk by Dr Mihail Garbuzov, Research Fellow at LASI on 'Seasonal Foraging Challenges in Honeybees'.

Venue: Cobham Village Hall, Lushington Drive, Cobham,

Surrey, KT11 2LU. The meeting will be hosted by Weybridge Division.

National Honey Show, 29th to 31st October, Weybridge: how to sign up as a volunteer or steward

The National Honey Show organisers are looking for

stewards and also volunteers for the information stand.

This is a good opportunity to get involved and meet

beekeepers from all over the UK and even the world. If you are interested please respond to the following from Bob Maurer and Sandra Rickwood:

Stewards

With the new National Honey Show layout, we will be requiring more stewards this year. Your help would be very much appreciated. Beginners are welcome. You do not need to be an expert beekeeper but I can promise that you will learn a lot from the other beekeepers you meet. The deal is that you get free entry to the show, work for half a day at the direction of the chief steward and the rest of the day is yours to enjoy the show. You even get £5 to buy a sandwich! You have to take what's given so you could be watching over the security of some of the displays whilst talking to visitors, directing visitors around the show, marshalling the crowds in the lecture theatres or anything else that comes up.

If you would like to do that please apply as soon as possible to the General Secretary, John Hendrie, 26 Coldharbour Lane, Hildenborough, Tonbridge, Kent, TN11 9JT or bibba26@talktalk.net

To avoid confusion the above is for general stewards, not to be a judge's steward. You are very welcome to apply to John if you wish to be a judge's steward (ie assist a judge as he or she judges each of the almost 200 classes on Thursday morning) but please understand that competition for these jobs is intense and we do give preference to applicants who have started the process of becoming a honey judge.

The Show will be at St Georges College, Weybridge. We will need a few stewards during set up on Wednesday 28th October and the show will be open from Thursday 29th to Saturday 31st October. Opening times are generally 9am to 6pm. There are also 'after hours' events run by organisations such as Bees for Development and the Central Association of Bee-Keepers.

Do come and join the fun!

Bob Maurer: Chairman, National Honey Show

Volunteers for Information Stand

Volunteers are needed to man the Information Stand at the National Honey Show in October. These are usually 2 to 3 hour sessions where you meet and chat to the diverse mix of show visitors. Members with all levels of beekeeping knowledge have thoroughly enjoyed their time doing this in the past so why not join in this year.

If you wish to be involved please email me at rickwoodsaka@gmail.com or telephone on 01932 244326.

The Show is on from Thursday 29th October to Saturday 31st. Remember to give me the half days and times you will be available. Free entry to the show is included for those who are not already members of the NHS.

Thank you,

Sandra Rickwood

The search for young beekeepers is on . . .

Each year an 'English' team attends the International Meeting of Young Beekeepers (IMYB). The BBKA is currently seeking young

people for next year's event and there are just two eligibility requirements: first, that you are aged between 12 and 15 on 31st January 2016 and second, that you have

passed the BBKA Basic Assessment. A flyer is attached with further information .



'Raw' honey?

I took this photo in a supermarket in California because I was intrigued/irritated by the labels saying '100% Raw-Real Honey'. Am I right in thinking this is meaningless and therefore just a marketing tactic? Or does it have a genuine local meaning? These honeys were orange blossom, Basswood and Blueberry (infused) and

sold at \$11.99 per 298g – that's £7.83 per jar.

Our local agent for E H Thorne Beehives Ltd is:
Richard Palmer tel 020 8679 0401 or email palmersbees@hotmail.co.uk