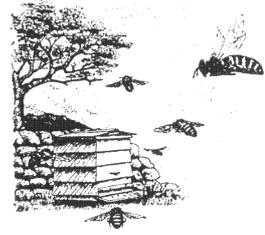




The Daily Worker

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Web site: www.holsworthybeekeepers.org.uk



Devon County Show

HOLSWORTHY WINS THE CUP

No, not Holsworthy Football Club, but US, Holsworthy Beekeepers, and by quite a large margin. The **DBKA Divisional Challenge Cup** is awarded to the Branch scoring the highest number of points overall, (6 points for a 1st place, 5 points for a 2nd place and so on) and I was enormously proud to accept the trophy on your behalf. At present it is being valued and engraved, but we will have it shortly, and I will bring it to all our meetings for you to see it.

What is truly amazing is that all these points were earned by just 6 of us - Reg Godwin, Pete McCabe, Ruth Neal, Andrew Sluggett, Elaine Smith and Chris Smith. However, huge congratulations must go to Andrew because he actually won FIVE of the trophies, a wonderful accomplishment, and we should be so proud of him. (See later for a breakdown of the winners).

But this is not all the good news. The DBKA Bees and Honey Feature Marquee won the **GOLD MEDAL** for the Most Attractive Showground Feature (for the second year running). As we had won it last year, we had absolutely no expectation of winning anything, as the Judges tend to share the accolades amongst the 30-odd features. So you can imagine our surprise and delight to be awarded it again. It was quite clear that the Big Bee, the jigsaw and the virtual hive all played their part in the Children's corner and attracted much curiosity and discussion. It was so funny to hear one little chap ask if he could actually play with the jigsaw as he had obviously been told in no uncertain terms not to touch anything!

Just for your information, Tiverton Branch won the Stevenson Trophy and Mr. R Blackmore of Okehampton Branch won the Blue Ribbon (best exhibit in Show) for a beautifully worked piece of marquetry depicting the DBKA logo on a plaque. What is important to remember is that all this success is only accomplished by enormous hard work and commitment, so a big thank you to all of you who helped, in whatever way, to bring all the elements together on the day.

Ruth Neal

Member Results

Andrew Sluggett

7 x 1st place
1 x 2nd place
3 x 3rd place
2 x 4th place

Pete McCabe

1 x 1st place
3 x 2nd place
2 x 3rd place
2 x 4th place
1 x 5th place

Ruth Neal

3 x 1st place
1 x 3rd place
2 x 4th place

Chris Smith

2 x 2nd place
2 x 3rd place

Reg Godwin

1 x 1st place
1 x 3rd place
1 x 5th place

Elaine Smith

2 x 2nd place

Not bad eh!

Ruth



Holsworthy members win the **Divisional Challenge Cup**

Chilla Challenge Triumph

Holsworthy Beekeepers are not the only winning team. Our friends and colleagues Linda and George of Westlake Orchards showed a clean pair of heels to the opposition with their delicious apple juices. Although West Lake had no entries in the honey section - they swept the board in the apple juice section taking a 1st for the Cox with Bramley, 2nd for a single variety Ribston Pippin, and 3rd for Russet with Bramley. In the 'Cider for Retail' section they took 2nd place. The overall high points in the judging awarded them the 'Perpetual Challenge Cup'.

Gift Aid – Free Money From HMRC!

Without wishing to put pressure on anyone, I thought it would be a good idea to remind members of the benefits of Gift Aid to our branch. Of your £30 annual subscription, the lion's share goes to DBKA and BBKA with our branch receiving less than £5 per member.

When a member signs up for Gift Aid we are able to reclaim 25% of the total subscription back from HMRC and all of this £7-50 is returned to the branch. Even better news is the fact that other donations to the branch can also be Gift Aided be this lump sum, sponsored event or even the value of a piece of donated equipment.

Every year we ask members on their subscription forms if they would like to Gift Aid their payment. We are able to roll this declaration on indefinitely and even claim back six years unless you tell us to cancel it but it is important to ensure that you have paid tax equal to or in excess of the amount the club claims back from HMRC. Many people think they are not paying tax but it might have already been deducted prior to receipt from building society savings or pensions. It's worth checking to see if this is the case.

If you would like to sign up for Gift Aid or you are uncertain whether you are already signed up, please contact membership@holsworthybeekeepers.org.uk, or treasurer@holsworthybeekeepers.org.uk, Graham Jones or Reg Godwin, and we will be happy to help. However we cannot give advice on whether you are paying tax – your local tax office would be able to tell you.

Last year the branch received £431 back in Gift Aid but this was down on the previous year's return of £567. With the cost of converting the stables at Dunsland and renewing our hives it would be wonderful if we could maximise the refund from HMRC this year.

Reg Godwin - Treasurer

President Elect chooses DBKA

Mrs Mary Quicke of Quickes Cheeses, the President Elect of Devon County Agricultural Association chose to include the DBKA Bees and Honey Marquee in her official tour of the Show. She was welcomed and shown round by Ruth Neal, DBKA Show Chairman & Secretary. Mrs Quicke was immensely interested to meet and question all the stewards and had many follow-up questions

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regarding our activities. It is a great honour to be included in the itinerary and be given a 30 minute slot.



Andrew receives the Devon Beekeepers Trophy

TV Stardom

The lovely Kirstie Allsopp, presenter of "Location, Location" is busy making a new series about country crafts and associated skills. It is to be shown on Channel 4 in the autumn. Why am I telling you this? Well, she spent a very happy time at the Bees and Honey Marquee learning to roll a candle (very well) and also nearly 40 minutes in the Live Bee Enclosure, properly suited up, where she handled the bees and asked some quite searching questions. She and her production team were charming and very interested in all we were doing in the marquee. Check the TV listings later in the year to share the buzz.

Ruth



The Presentation of the Gold Medal

Space for Hives

Mrs Dennis from Northlew is offering space for up to three hives in her Orchards. If you are interested you can contact her on 01837-52364.

A Tribute to Bob Bentham and Eileen Arney

Someone once said to me that on becoming a beekeeper, you gain an extra family. It is therefore with sadness that we learn of the death of two members of that family.

In April, Robert (Bob) Bentham lost his battle with cancer. Bob was a keen supporter of his wife Anne's beekeeping. Anne will be best known to most members as a former Branch secretary. And in May, we learnt of the death of Eileen Arney. Eileen was the wife of our Branch newsletter editor, David Arney.

Bob's main input into Branch life was probably his photography, winning the blue ribbon in 2007 at the Devon County Show for his bee on apple blossom which then went on to win a further prize at the National Honey Show. From then on he entered photos each year until 2010 both at Devon County and in our own annual Honey Show. He was perhaps a somewhat reluctant helper with actual beekeeping, but always very willing to help with our Nosema testing and had lots of creative ideas for our Branch show exhibits.

Our condolences go to both Anne and David, and to the respective families.

Christopher Smith

Sculptural Comb

I recently helped a club member to sort out a hive. The bees had got up above the crown board into an empty super which had been used the previous autumn as an eke and had been left on over winter. The pictures show the wonderful sculptural shapes which honey bees will produce when left to their own devices. Good enough for the Tate Modern any day!

Reg Godwin



Apiary Meetings

The dates of the next four Apiary Meetings at Dunsland House are as follows:

Sunday 26th June 2.30pm

Sunday 10th July 2.30pm

Sunday 24th July 2.30pm

Sunday 7th August 2.30pm

For further details, including clothing restrictions, please consult the website:

www.holsworthybeekeepers.org.uk/calender.htm

More photos from Devon County Show



Brimacombe Perpetual Memorial Challenge Bowl



Frank Alstone Perpetual Skep Trophy

Anonymous quotation

Never be afraid to try something new.

Amateurs built The Ark,

Professionals built the Titanic!