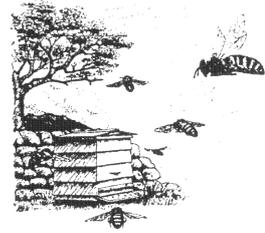


# The Daily Worker

• Edition 14 February 2012

Web site: [www.holsworthybeekeepers.org.uk](http://www.holsworthybeekeepers.org.uk)



## From the Chairman

### Lengthening Days

The days are now noticeable getting longer and we must all keep a close watch on our bee's food stores. Lift one side of the hive then the other side so one can get a good idea of the food they have compared with an empty hive with frames. If in doubt place some bakers fondant over the feed hole. If they need it they will use it.

Now is also a good time to move hives round your apiary. That swarm you hived in the wrong place last summer at 10.30pm in the dark by torch light, for example. This time of year the less than 3 foot or more than 3 miles rule doesn't count when the bees are not flying every day.

We had a very successful honey show on 9<sup>th</sup> of January with over 50 entries judged by Mr Harry Richards with Ann Bentham as steward. Thank you very much to all helpers for your time. Our youngest member Daniel Woodward proudly went home with a piece of silverware after winning a number of prizes with his entries. Well-done Daniel.

We are still in need of an apiary manger, if anyone would like be prepared to have a go give me a call  
01409241563 Andrew Sluggett



## Spring Convention

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2012 0930 am – 4.00 pm**

Chilsworthy Village Hall near Holsworthy

### Book Your Place Now!

I find it hard to believe that this will be our seventh year of the Holsworthy Branch Spring Convention. Last year, we wondered if we would ever be able to better the programme. We think we have at least matched it in variety and quality, however I'll let you will be the judge!

Briefly, the programme starts off with our Regional Bee Inspector, Adam Vevers, something of a convention in his own right, who will be bringing us up to date on current

beekeeping and NBU matters, particularly the use of pesticides.

And, by popular request, Professor Michael Keith-Lucas returns to share more stories arising from his work in using of pollen in crime detection. Fortunately, he will be speaking before lunch.....

You may have seen recent publicity for the ZEST hive, a new concept hive developed by Bill Summers. Bill, an architect by profession, will be joining us to share the story of its development.

We are particularly lucky to have secured the presence of two key researchers from Rothamsted Research. Firstly, Dr Juliet Osborne, who is going to describe her research work on both honey and bumble bees. And then her husband, Dr Peter Kennedy, describes his work on the links between our quest for more and more food, and its impact on the health of our bees.

So spend a good day with fellow beekeepers, enjoy a delightful lunch and stock up on beekeeping supplies at keen prices from our trade stands: Bitz4Bees, and Modern Beekeeping. For the first time this year, Dianne Price is mounting a trade stand with her wide range of beekeeping gifts and ceramics.

There will also be our usual light hearted quiz, together with a quite remarkable prize draw. This year, despite economic pressures, we have received some great prize donations that include vouchers for Bitz4Bees, Thornes, and Northern Bee Books and more.....

To book your place at the special Holsworthy Branch member price of £10, telephone our Registration Secretary, Roy Houghton on 01409 250230 or email [r.houghton07@btinternet.com](mailto:r.houghton07@btinternet.com) or visit the website at [www.holsworthybeekeepers.org.uk](http://www.holsworthybeekeepers.org.uk)

### Christopher Smith Spring Convention Group

For further details of our very varied programme, and directions to the venue,

visit our website [www.holsworthybeekeepers.org.uk](http://www.holsworthybeekeepers.org.uk)  
Supported by BITZ4BEES & MODERN BEEKEEPING



## Appeal for Cakes & Draw Prizes

Last year, I noted that we always seem to ask a lot of our members, but as in previous years, we are again asking for donations of cakes to compliment the Ploughman's Lunch at the Spring Convention.

Each year we received very positive comments about the Convention's catering, so can we do it again in 2012? Any cake, but ideally a tray bake (it's easier for the 'Catering Team'!) would be most welcome.

Just bring them along on the day. We are also seeking items to add to our prize draw. Provisions to add to a hamper would be most welcome.

Christopher Smith



## Holsworthy Beekeepers Annual Honey Show

9 January 2012



Daniel Woodward receives his cup from Christopher Smith

### Honey Show Prize winners

Class	Description	First prize
1	Two 1lb Jars of Light Run Honey	Anne Binns
2	Two 1lb Jars of Medium Run Honey	Christopher Smith
3	Two 1lb Jars of Dark Run Honey	Andrew Sluggett
4	One 1lb Jar of Chunk Honey	-
5	Two 1lb Jars of Naturally Granulated Honey	Graham Jones
6	Two 1lb Jars of Creamed Honey	Anne Binns
7	One Comb of Honey for Extracting	Ritchie Riggs

8	Two Containers of Cut Comb	-
9	One Wax-made Object (moulded, cast or sculptured)	Andrew Sluggett
10	One Cake of Beeswax	Andrew Sluggett
11	Craft item of bee keeping interest	Anne Binns
12	Twelve Pieces of Honey Fudge	Daniel Woodward
13	One Honey Fruit Cake	Daniel Woodward
14	Photograph of Beekeeping interest	Reg Godwin
15	Item of beekeeping interest	Daniel Woodward
16	Pair of beeswax candles	Christopher Smith
	The Stanley Perpetual Cup & Best in Show	Anne Binns – Class 1
	Thorne Perpetual Novices Cup	Ritchie Riggs
	Penfound Cup (Large)	Andrew Sluggett
	Penfound Cup (Small)	Andrew Sluggett



### Education News

The beginner's course is well on its way with 12 candidates enrolled. This course would not happen if it was not for the volunteers that give up their time whether it is to teach or provide essential refreshments. Thank you to all who have helped out. With many new comers on the course who may be in need of bees and equipment can members let me know if they have nucs or old equipment for sale? There may just be a market for your unwanted stuff that is cluttering your apiary shed.

It is the time of year when people need to consider if they are going to take the Basic assessment as I will need to know numbers and search for an assessor. You need to have kept bees for at least a season and have attended a course or been keeping bees for longer. Please let me have names of those who may be interested. For those considering taking examinations this March you need to get your application form in by the 10<sup>th</sup> February.

Anne Binns 01409 261381

[j.binns990@btinternet.com](mailto:j.binns990@btinternet.com)



## Membership renewals for 2012

Membership subscriptions for 2012 for DBKA and the Holsworthy branch are now due. We are repeating last year's system of producing partially completed renewal forms for all existing members (and those who have expressed an interest in joining in 2012).

All members with an email address should have received their own renewal form; this will have their personal details already completed. All you will need to do is check them, complete the category of membership required sign the form and return it, together with a cheque for the subscription to the Membership Secretary – instructions are on the form. If you have not yet received your form please contact Graham Jones on 01288 361147 or email

[info@holsworthybeekeepers.org.uk](mailto:info@holsworthybeekeepers.org.uk)

**DBKA will again be operating the rule that if the subscription is not paid by the end of February 2012, the membership will lapse.**

Graham Jones



## Keep email addresses up to date & look at them!

The committee are very keen to keep the branch running costs as low as possible (more money can then be spent on the apiary etc.) and so we always try to use emails as often as possible. However, where necessary, we will always post information to members who do not use emails.

What is difficult is when members do not keep their email addresses up to date or do not look at their inboxes. If you have given us an email address on your subscription form, we will use that for communications.

Recently I was contacted by a member who was asking about subs for this year and said he had heard nothing. I told him that it had been emailed to him using the address he supplied and the reply was 'Oh I never look at that.' So I assume that for the last couple of years he has received nothing from the branch!

Graham Jones



## DBKA Roles

At the Executive Council of DBKA this morning we failed to find people who could take over the roles of DBKA Secretary and Minute Secretary.

These are not onerous roles - the first being mainly dissemination of information to committee members

and the second taking the minutes of committee meetings.

An urgent plea therefore is being sent to all branch members asking if there is someone out there who could help in these tasks.

If you are able to take on one of these roles, please let me know as a matter of urgency. The current incumbents leave the positions after the AGM on 17th March.

Eunice Goodwin

Secretary HBKA



## Monthly indoor meeting

'The Stables', Chilsworthy Methodist Church

Mon 13 February 2012

7.30 pm

**'Queen rearing - Part 1'** an illustrated talk by Anne Binns and Andrew Sluggett on this important topic for all beekeepers.

Our Chairman and Education Officer will be talking about some of the techniques that beekeepers can use in queen rearing. This is a fascinating and vital topic for all beekeepers so come along and learn how you can raise your own queens.

This is part 1 on this topic; part 2 will be a practical at the branch apiary in the summer at a time to be arranged.

All are welcome. Members £1, guests £2. Tea and biscuits provided.



Honey Show Judge, Harry Richards, studies entries to the 'Light Run Honey' class.



## Quotation

'Experience is one thing you can't get for nothing.'

Oscar Wilde

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Ask not what your club will do for you - Ask what you can do for your club.

Please email [info@west-lake.co.uk](mailto:info@west-lake.co.uk) and offer your help in any of the following areas. Help is needed to prepare the apiary for the season - plus many other little jobs. See list below.

Big thank you...from the committee.

**Apiary Clean up Dunsland**

**Apiary clean up Hollacombe ( shed clearance)**

**Lime wash club house wall at Dunsland**

**Hive frame constructions/repairs**

**Tea duties at apiary**

**Tea duties on training days**

**Tea duties at the monthly Winter Meetings  
- Mondays Sept-March**

**Help on Nosema Days**

**Spring Convention help/plan/kitchen/this,  
that and the other**



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