

Liverpool and Merseyside Beekeepers

Newsletter August 2018

Details have just been released for this years regional Members Show (formerly called the Honey Show) -

Lancashire & North West BKA Members Show Sunday 30th September 2018 Brockholes Nature Reserve

New Road, Salmesbury, Preston PR5 0AG (Use PR5 0UJ for satnav)

There are 33 classes of entry covering honey, wax, mead, baking, photography and crafts, so something for everyone, including classes specific to anyone new to beekeeping in 2018. Two senior judges will officiate and if there are sufficient entries the Blue Ribbon will be awarded for the best exhibit in show. The Branch Shield will be awarded to the winner of the Co-operation Class. *Would anyone be interested in co-ordinating a Liverpool BKA entry this year?* Staging of exhibits will be 9:45 – 10:45 and the Show closes at 16:30. I am unable to attach the Show schedule to this email but if you would like a copy contact me and I will endeavour to send it to you directly.

The lecture has been renamed “The Barbara Roddick Memorial Lecture” as a tribute to our former President who passed away last December. The lecture, on pests and diseases, will be delivered by Regional Bee Inspector, Graham Royle, providing he is not called away on a hornet hunt. Places for the lecture are limited to 30 and will be on a first come first served basis, so book early.

The hosts, Lancashire Wildlife Trust, are keen for this to be an event that their visitors can enjoy. So, Preston Branch are providing and manning an Observation Hive and Ormskirk and Croston are providing a “Hive to Jar” demonstration. It has been suggested that there be dressing up in bee suits and a photo board. Hopefully there will be a tasting table and shop selling honey, candles etc, similar to the one run by Southport at their Show. There will also be a raffle, for which donations of prizes would be very welcome.

If you have any suggestions for public engagement or would like to volunteer to help please email Mrs Elaine Hargreaves, the LNWBKA Exhibitions Officer: elaine.hargreaves@lancashirebeekeepers.co.uk, tel: 07770 646958

Meetings

The meeting in Fulwood Park, was well attended and it was good to see some new faces, prospective beekeepers and our first ever young member, Ben. Peter had plenty of advice for us all going into winter (and it does feel like winter suddenly!) and Evelyn’s delicious cakes disappeared in no time. Thanks

for welcoming us your garden Evelyn!

Our next meeting will be in Rainhill on 22nd September, where John McCann will demonstrate how to make mead and damson gin. Bring some damsons or sloes and get some of your own on the go.

Upcoming meetings in the wider area:

- Friday 7th September – Preston, Deformed Wing Virus, Dr Steve Martin, Sheffield University, 7.30pm, The Intact Centre, 49 Whitby Ave, Ingol, Preston PR2 3YP.
- Thursday 13th September – Southport, Winter Preparation, 7.30pm The Fleetwood Hesketh Social Club, Fylde Road PR9 9XH.
- Saturday 29th September – Preston, Penwortham Autumn Fair at Penwortham United Reformed Church Hall. Details TBC
- Saturday 29th September - Ormskirk, Branch Honey Show, Aughton Village Hall, Winifred Lane, Aughton L39 5DH

“Honey Bee Management Course”, East Lancs BKA

11 weeks, starting Tuesday 28th August, 7-9pm. Cost £40. Further details here: <http://www.eastlancsbees.org.uk/whats-on/>

Asian Hornets in Jersey

The Jersey Branch is having extreme difficulties with the Asian Hornet. The beekeepers spent last year searching for the hornets' nests and thought they had been successful in finding them all, however this year proved that to be incorrect. The hornets are everywhere: in greenhouses, in the hedges, in gardens. As a result there has been a call for volunteers to go and help to find the nests. There is a possibility of staying with beekeeper's over there, which would mean they would be better able to help in the search for the hornets. If anyone is able to help please e mail diane.roberts@bbka.org.uk

BBKA Forum

BBKA has just set up an online forum for discussion of anything and everything to do with beekeeping. There are lots of topics relevant to the season already posted – have a look: <https://bbkaforum.co.uk>

Equipment for Sale

The branch has the following second hand equipment available for sale:

- Rainbow mating hive £3.

- National(?) section rack complete with round sections and covers £50
- Heather honey loosener £4
- Two apideas (possibly) £5 ea

Let us know if you are interested.

*Tracey Seddon, Secretary, contact@liverpoolbeekeepers.co.uk
www.liverpoolbeekeepers.co.uk*