



Forest Beekeeper

The monthly newsletter of the Epping Forest Beekeepers
February 2008

Celebrating Winners at the AGM

As well as the official business of the divisional Annual General Meeting, on 17 January we celebrated the winners from the Honey Show in September last year.

2008 AGM

Chairman, Ken Barker, opened the evening by giving a report on the various activities throughout the year and expressed his thanks for those who helped to make 2007 a great success for the division. This was followed by reports from the various offices in the division and the formal adoption of the financial statement for 2007.

The last formal part of the AGM was to ballot for incoming officers. Ken announced that this would be the last year that he would be standing for election as Chairman, and that Helen Chadwick had volunteered to act as Deputy Chair in 2008 with a view to taking on the role at next year's AGM. Ted Gradosielski offered his services as Secretary, whilst Tiffany Levi was proposed



as the new Treasurer with Kevin Cook editing the monthly newsletter. These volunteers were all unopposed and voted into office. Peter Clarke and Ron Baldwin will continue as Show Secretaries, Joe Chadwick will continue to manage the library and Elizabeth Day will continue to distribute the newsletter.

Ken assured members that he would be continuing to act as Disease Officer and run the beginner' course each year. A vote of thanks was given to those that have served the division in the previous year and offered themselves for office in 2008. ♂

Honey Show Winners

With the AGM formalities over, Ken then moved on to the presentations for the 2007 Honey Show winners.

Peter Clarke and Ron Baldwin were very pleased with the level of support from division members – especially those that had entered the Honey Show for the first time.

Ted Gradosielski walked away with a collection of trophies, including the Divisional Shield, the Presidents Cup, the S. J. Smith Memorial Bowl, the Jarvis Cup and the Best in Show certificate. Whilst Ted was extremely pleased to do so well, he did



offer to give a presentation to the division later this year on how to prepare honey for competitions. Ted commented, "I'm going to share some of my secrets and hopefully encourage even more members to enter the competition this September".

The division would like to thank Oonagh Gabriel for judging the entries this year, and the organisers of the Buckhurst Hill Horticultural Show for hosting the event. ♂



The Brightman Mead Trophy

Presented to Peter Clarke



The B J Cooper Cup

Presented to Jenny Johns



The Becker Cup

Presented to Joe Chadwick



Beeswax Cup

Presented to Ron Baldwin



The Clarke Cup

Presented to Tiffany Levi & Kevin Cook

What's on this month...

We have a very special meeting coming up this month on 21st February. Oonagh Gabriel has volunteered to put herself under the spotlight and answer your questions on beekeeping and producing honey.

We would like to see as many members as possible attend this meeting, and for you to come armed with some questions for Oonagh. Having attained the National Diploma in Beekeeping, Oonagh has an encyclopaedic knowledge of bees so you should be able to get the answers to any question you may have.

There's a slight change in the previously published schedule of meetings. On 20th March, Jenny and Michael Johns will be given their presentation on Swarm Control. This was previously scheduled for the April meeting, but as swarming might have started by then we thought it was better to bring this talk forward.

The Open Evening will now be held on April 17th. Please invite anyone you know who has an interest in beekeeping to this event. It should give them an excellent insight into bees and beekeeping in general.

Our meetings start at 7.30pm and are held at Chingford Horticultural Society Hall, Larkshall Road, Chingford E4. ♂

Oxalic Acid

Jenny and Michael Johns, Pam and Colin Thompson and Ken Barker have recently attended a course on applying Oxalic Acid treatment for Varroa. A stock of acid has now been obtained for division members and Ken can apply the treatment for you at a cost of 50pence per colony. Please contact Ken on 0208 506 2236 for more information. ♂

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