



# Forest Beekeeper

The monthly newsletter of the Epping Forest Beekeepers

October 2008

[www.eppingforestbeekeepers.co.uk](http://www.eppingforestbeekeepers.co.uk)

## Epping Forest Festival

The Division took a stand at the Epping Forest Festival on 7<sup>th</sup> September – and it was go, go, go all day.

Report by Helen Chadwick

After a very wet start to the day we put on our wellies and erected our gazebo on our allotted site.

We were alongside a massive army cadet tent but we soon had them quaking in their boots when our observation hive was strategically placed to draw in the crowds. With honey for sale, a demonstration hive and candle making we were all set up.



The rain held off and gradually people began to arrive. It was not until I walked around the festival site that I realised that we were one of the main crowd-pullers.

With an announcement of our presence put over the PA system we were well away.



Everyone was fascinated by the explanation of the observation hive given by Ken, Jenny, Mike and Peter Eagles. Tiffany, Ted, Peter and myself were kept busy selling the 80 plus jars of honey. (We actually sold out at 2.30pm).

Roy and Jessie Cropley had a long queue of children, some still even in their mother's arms, wanting to roll candles.



The day was a definite success which will be repeated next year. Although it was a tiring long day for us all we were rewarded by the fact that there is obviously a real interest in the welfare of bees as shown by the very many signatures that we got for our petition for research funding into the current bee problems.

Thanks to everyone for their time and effort in making such a great day. ♂

## What's on this month...

We are back to our regular meetings at the Chingford Horticultural Hall, Larkshall Road, Chingford on 16<sup>th</sup> October – with a microscopy evening delivery by Roy Cropley. This is always a fascinating evening – with plenty of time for everyone to get examine bees through the microscope. The aim is to help us all to know the honey bee in more detail and raise healthier bees. ♂

## Showdown

**A report on the Division Honey Show** By Peter Clarke  
Photographs by Jenny Johns  
The show was once again only supported by ten members – which was quite disappointing.



We also had a problem with the honey exhibits as the judge found that a lot of the jars had finger marks on them and most of the honey was granulating.



Next year we'll note that those putting out the jars for display should be wearing white gloves.

## Results

Ted Gradosielski  
(Presidents Cup, Jarvis Cup, Taylor Cup & Divisional Shield)

Ken Barker  
(S.J. Smith Memorial Bowl & Best in Show)

Ken Barker & Kevin Cook  
(H.J. Cooper Vase)

Peter Clarke  
(Barker Cup)

I would like to thank all those that took part and those that helped. Maybe next year it will be more than the regulars that take the trouble to enter. ♂

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