



Forest Beekeeper

The monthly newsletter of the Epping Forest Beekeepers

January 2009

www.eppingforestbeekeepers.co.uk

Christmas social celebrations

There was much to celebrate at the Division's 2008 Christmas social – and a whole New Year to look forward to as well.

Having served as Chairman, Swarm and Training Officer for the division for as long as some of the younger members can remember, the Christmas social was thought to be the most appropriate time for the Division to award Ken Barker with his Honorary Life Membership.

Ken has played a major role in the continuing success of the Division in recent years, ensuring that new members were given a hearty, encouraging and informative welcome to the world of beekeeping through his workshops and mentoring of new members. Over the years there has barely been a week that passed without Ken being consulted by experienced and novice members alike.

Any member who has found the need to call on Ken's experience, or contacts in beekeeping, will know that he is always more than enthusiastic to help a fellow member in their time of need. He seems to be willing to drop anything when a member calls for help.

Ken has been an exceptional ambassador for beekeeping in dealing with the many swarm-related cries for help from members of the public. He has also been the first to volunteer in representing the Division at open days and events throughout the year.



Though Ken will be standing down as Chairman in 2009, he will take on the important role of President and representing the Division at County level. We are also sure that Ken will continue to play an active role in divisional activities, delivering the induction course for new members and helping out generally in local activities.

Ken simply couldn't give this level of commitment without the support of his wife, Jeanie. In gratitude for this support, the Division also presented Jeanie with a bouquet of flowers – which we hope will in some way compensate for the many hours that Ken has dedicated to members.



There was a rapturous round of applause when John Gracey, the current President, made the announcement and presentation to Ken during the evening. We hope that this remains as a constant reminder to Ken of our gratitude and fondness for one of the division's keenest, most knowledgeable and helpful members. ♪



AGM Notice

All members are duly notified that the Annual General Meeting of the Epping Forest Beekeepers will take place at 8pm on Thursday 15th January 2009 at Chingford Horticultural Society Hall, Larkshall Road Chingford E4.

AGENDA

1. Welcome to this year's newcomers.
2. Apologies for absence.
3. Matters arising from the previous AGM.
4. Chairman's report.
5. Secretary's report.
6. Treasurer's report and presentation of accounts.
7. C.E.C. report.
8. Show Secretary's report.
9. Librarian's report.
10. Election of officers.
11. Any other business.

We hope that this meeting will be well supported by all members. It is your opportunity to have your say on the running of the Division and on its future development. We will also be celebrating members' achievements in various exams taken throughout 2008. ♪

Expanding Division

2008 was an exceptional year for new members – and with Ken's beginners course filling up it looks like 2009 will see us grow even further.

The latest new member, Michael Ruggins, signed up at the Christmas social, taking our total to 41 members.



A warm welcome is extended to Michael and all new members that have recently joined. The latest version of the Application Form has been uploaded to the website so please pass this on to anyone who you believe might be interested in joining us. ♪

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