

# REIGATE BEEKEEPERS



Charity No 1026386

A Division of Surrey Beekeepers' Association

www.reigatebeekeepers.org.uk

## BEENEWS

### November 2011

#### Dates for Your Diary

Wed	9 <sup>th</sup> Nov	RBKA AGM		Woodhatch	19:30
Sat	3 <sup>rd</sup> Dec	Surrey BKA	AGM	Tilford near Farnham	
Wed	7 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Beekeeping in Australia	Nick Withers	Woodhatch	19:30
Wed	4 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Hives Save Lives	Mike Oxley	Woodhatch	19:30
Wed	1 <sup>st</sup> Feb	Quiz night	Name that Plant	Woodhatch	19:30
Sat	4 <sup>th</sup> Feb	SBKA Training day	details tba	tba	
Sat	11 <sup>th</sup> Feb	RBKA Spring Lunch			
Sat	18 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Surrey Bee Day		Ewell	
Wed	7 <sup>th</sup> Mar	My First Year with the Bees	Vince Gallo	Woodhatch	19:30
Fourth Friday Each Month		Reigate Farmers Market	Richard Woodhouse		
each Wed April-August		Apiary Meetings		Henfold Lane Apiary	18.30
First Wed of each winter month		Winter meetings		Woodhatch Community Centre	19:30

The **Chairmans' Report** which usually occupies this space is on two separate pages this month as it is his report to Annual General Meeting, which you all know will take place next Wednesday at Woodhatch in the usual place at the usual time.

The Agenda is attached. Do try and come. It is not all really boring procedure and stuff, and without a lecture to sit through we will have loads of time to talk and put (the Beekeeping) world right.

Notice is hereby given that the  
**133rd Annual General Meeting**  
of the  
**Surrey Beekeepers Association**  
will be held on  
**Saturday 3rd December 2011**  
at the  
**Tilford Institute**  
**Tilford**  
**Farnham, GU10 2BU**  
**At 2pm.**

The meeting will be followed by refreshments and a talk by Beulah Cullen and her husband John Gamble on Mead.

#### Who's who - and how to contact them!

Chairman	Paul Cleaver	cleaver.paul@googlemail.com	01306 730188
Hon. Sec	Jacqui Essen.	jandjessen@btinternet.com	01342 842244
Hon. Treasurer	Andrew Buchanan	andrewb38@btinternet.com	01306 712773
Newsletter	Audrey Gill.	beelady@btinternet.com	01293 784161
Membership	Michael Hill	reigateeditor@hotmail.com	01306 730668
R. B. I.	Alan Byham		Mobile 07775 119447
		alan.byham@fera.gsi.gov.uk	Office 01306 611016

## Beenews

Some time ago I put out a request for volunteers to help with compiling this Beenews. I am delighted to tell you that there were two such volunteers both champing at the bit to put pen to paper-so to speak.

They are Richard Bradfield and Graham Pooley. They both have experience in these matters and know at which end of the computer the On/Off switch is found and are therefore experts!

So, with luck they will jointly be producing the Beenews from now on.

The current plan is for Richard to gather together the contributions and Graham will put the articles together to produce the finished item. Since as membership sec I have everyones email addresses I shall still be looking after the distribution.

In future items should be sent to Richard at [richard.d.bradfield@btinternet.com](mailto:richard.d.bradfield@btinternet.com) and Graham can be contacted at [grahampooley@aol.com](mailto:grahampooley@aol.com)

I thank them both for offering to take this on and look forward to a new improved version of Beenews in the future.

*Mike Hill*

## Subscriptions

Thanks again to all who have sent in their subs.

At present about 120 members have responded, which a few years ago would have been about 130%. However after last years' bumper season 120 is only just over half. Which means about 100 of you are running the risk of losing Beecraft after December and BBKA News shortly after.

If you don't like using the post or writing cheques, bring your wallet to the AGM and I will relieve you of your Christmas bonus a month early.

*Mike Hill*

## Honey Show 2011

The last minute changes to the Honey Show this year were quite definitely an improvement. The anticipated difficulties with access proved groundless as did the perceived out of the way location.

There was a continuous stream of visitors keeping the band of volunteer stewards busy all day.

There were 127 entries from 28 members covering 20 classes. This was enough to enable the 'Blue Ribbon' to be awarded for the best entry in the show. This was won this year by Celia Perry for her Mead and she tied with Maggie Minter for the most cups (two each). Bob Maurer collected the most points and won the Reigate Cup (again) with Maggie a close second.

Well done to them; It is nice to see some fresh names among the prizes. A complete list of the results is on the back page

Congratulations and thanks to Jacqui Essen who masterminded the whole affair and thanks to all who :-provided refreshments, took in entries, brought plants to sell, sold the plants, brought tombola prizes, and sold tombola tickets, brought and sold honey and other things, paraded the streets of Reigate with smoker and veil, gave out leaflets, put up banners and bunting etc.....etc.

As well selling plenty of our honey we also made several recruits, and that's what it all about.

Thanks and well done everybody.

*Mike Hill*

## **Tree Planting**

Our next planting work party is on Saturday 19th November from 10 am until 1 pm!  
Light refreshments provided.

The aim is to plant a few small hedgerows in the access track area, replace failed plants from last season's planting (not many we are pleased to say), and put climbers in beside the containers to grow up the trellis.

If you have woody perennial plants to offer (native or naturalised in Britain) bring them with you along with spade, trowel, gloves or whatever tools you wish to use.

All are welcome; there are some lighter tasks for those who prefer not to do heavy work

Queries to Pam Saunders 01372 374917

## **MICHAEL DUGGAN**

4<sup>th</sup> November 1921 – 15<sup>th</sup> October 2011

It is with great sadness that we report the death of Michael Duggan on the 15<sup>th</sup> October this year at his daughter's home in Ireland. He was just two weeks short of his ninetieth birthday

Michael's mother was a beekeeper and inevitably he became a beekeeper too. In 1961 he joined the Committee of the Reigate BKA and in 1971 he became Chairman. When I first knew him he was already President and a very dynamic one too.

Solar wax extractors were becoming very popular at this time and when Michael realised that several members had made their own versions of these wonderful gadgets he organised a "race".

We all had to take our solar extractors up to Michael's garden on the Friday night of the designated weekend. The garden was ideal for this purpose as it faced south and had a considerable slope to it.

He set up thermocouples in each one and recorded the rate at which they warmed up and the final temperature reached.

On the Sunday we were all invited to tea with Michael and his lovely wife Phyllida.

Guess who won the race! Yes, Michael by a comfortable margin. There was a lot of 'leg pulling' over this but it really was a well deserved win and a most memorable Garden Meeting.

Michael's ashes have been buried at Redstone Cemetery, just below where we held that famous race.

Audrey Gill, 31 November 2011

## Honey Show Results 2011

	1	2	3	vhc	hc	c
1	Light Honey	Malcolm Broatch	Tom Moremon	Mike Hill	Roy Cottingham	Andrew Boagey
2	Med Honey	Malcolm Broatch	Audrey Gill	N/A	Bob Maurer	
3	Dark Honey	Cyril Humphries		Suzy Stevens		
4	Set Honey	Celia Perry		Bob Maurer		
5	Novices	Maggie Minter	Andrew Boagey	Gill Simoson	Celia Perry	
6	Cut Comb					
7	Mead	Celia Perry	Richard Danpure	Paul Cleaver	Bob Maurer	
8	1 Block Beeswax		Bob Maurer	Cyril Humphries		
9	3 Blocks wax	Bob Maurer	Maggie Minter			
10	Comb for Extracting	Andrew Buchanan	Cyril Humphries	Paul Cleaver		Bob Maurer
11	Competition Comb	Bob Maurer	Cyril Humphries	Maggie Minter		
12	Honey Cake	Pam Saunders	Mary Hellings	Audrey Gill	Celia Perry	Maggie Minter
13	A Dessert	Maggie Minter	Jacqui Essen	Pam Saunders	Richard Danpure	
14	Honey Biscuits	Maggie Minter	Suzy Stevens	Audrey Gill	Richard Danpure	Andrew Day
15	Group of Products	Maggie Minter	Bob Maurer	Richard Danpure	Paul Cleaver	Pam Saunders
16	A Gift of Honey	Audrey Gill	Cyril Humphries	Maggie Minter	Jacqui Essen	Tom Moremon
17	An Interesting exhibit	Bob Maurer	Jack Chapman	Tom Moremon		
18	A Photograph	Paul Cleaver	Bob Maurer	Richard Stuart	Jonathan Day	
19	Four Jars for sale	Malcolm Broatch	Cyril Humphries	Tom Moremon	Mike Hill	Jack Chapman
20	A picture					
21	A Photograph (Childrens)	Jonathan Day				

Tanner Cup	Light / Medium honey	Malcolm Broatch
WJ Cup	Set honey	Celia Perry
Novice Cup	Novices	Maggie Minter
JMB Cup	Cut comb	No Entries
Redhill Cup	Mead	Celia Perry

Geoff Lewis Plate	Honey Cake	Pam Saunders
Lockett Bowl	Group of products	Maggie Minter
Bramshaw Cup	Comb for Extraction	Andrew Buchanan
Reigate Cup	Most points	Bob Maurer
Blue Ribbon	Best in Show	Celia Perry