

# COMBINGS

THE MAGAZINE OF THE YORK AND DISTRICT BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

NUMBER 35 SEPTEMBER 2010

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## ASSOCIATION MATTERS

A new committee will be elected at our AGM on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October. Chairman David Gray asks that those of you who would like to be elected to the Committee and help run the Association to enter their names on the form at the end of "Combings" and send it to him.

And a message from Secretary David Bough – it is self explanatory:-

At last night's (Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> August ) committee meeting we discussed the possibility of having a page on our website about swarms, at the moment the first point of contact on the website for everything is the Secretary which is probably not appropriate.

Hopefully the page would cover how to recognise that they are honey bees rather than bumble bees and also to have a list of York Members who would be willing to collect swarms.

Will please include this information in your next Combings and ask that anyone who is interested in collecting swarms supply their name, contact telephone number and also the area that they would be willing to collect a swarm from - i.e. a radius from their address.

The easiest way for me to receive this information is via e.mail david@thecottageholtby.co.uk

Editors note:- I think every bee keeper should be willing to collect swarms in their area – as a service to the public. Making a charge for such a service is not unreasonable.

Charging for collecting swarms came up a few years ago. If I remember rightly, you collect the swarm for free and charged for travelling expenses. The reasons for it I forget – can any of you enlighten me?

Congratulation to Kate Wallace who sat Module 1 of the BBKA Examinations. She passed with a credit.

Kate is also on Yorkshire BKA's General Purposes Committee and is their Environment and Spray Liaison Officer.

### **SEASONAL BEE INSPECTOR.**

York Member Pete Allanson was appointed as Seasonal Bee Inspector earlier in the year.

Should you need his services, here is how you can contact him:-

E.mail :- [pcallanson@aol.com](mailto:pcallanson@aol.com) or peter.allanson@fera.gsi.gov

And by phone :- Home Tel 01 904 700 288 or mobile 07 775 119 438.

After the disappointing performance of last years auction. This years went well and you will see from the minutes of a Committee Meeting held soon after that the Committee were pleased with the out come and the Auction will be held again next year.

Matt Atkinson + Nigel Davies sent me these details:-

No of items: 93

Total Auction Revenue: £2,024.70

Income to Association: £85.70

Total No. of Sellers: 10

Average Price for Nucleus: £170.63

The auction was deemed to be a great success by all that attended and the committee was pleased with the outcome. There were a great number of people at the event and this led to a very special atmosphere and energy. Special thanks must go to Martin Ainsley (our auctioneer), Julia Mander (our co-ordinator & Press Manager), and Tom Robinson (our team on the day) and all at Murton.

The auction was advertised in the May edition of Yorkshire BKA e. news letter. This would get it to the maximum number of beekeepers in Yorkshire. A good move by our Publicity Officer. 🐝

I have heard from two independent sources that EFB has been found at the British Beekeepers Association's apiary at Stoneleigh. 🐝

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### **EDITORS MUSINGS.**

I had one of those experiences during the summer that beekeepers dread - a honey spill.

I was preparing a 28lb tub of honey for bottling. It had gone into my warming cabinet set in the tub to be liquidised. Twenty four hours later when it was almost liquid I noticed some wetness on the floor round my warming cabinet. Being next to our freezer I thought it was a refrigerant leak. As soon as I touched it with my fingers I realised what it was.

When I opened my cabinet there was a pool of honey in the bottom.

I was then in a panic to get the remaining honey out of the tub to reduce the quantity of honey leaking.

And then the clean up. It does not take much imagination to see the mess that had to be cleaned up which took most of the afternoon.

There is a board in the bottom of my warming cabinet hollowed out on its under side to accommodate the power cable and thermostat sensor. As it cannot be removed (design fault) my cabinet spent two days at a steep angle while the honey drained out.

The tub was new and that was its first fill. It must have had a knock at some time as there was an inch long split on the bottom edge. I reckoned that I lost five pounds of honey. 🐝

Tom Robinson sent me a message telling me of four colonies of bees that had been stolen from a field by the A63 at Osgodby.

I know the spot – it was very close to the road and easily accessible. I understand that their owner has just moved into our area and was using that site on a temporary basis until finding a permanent site.

I entered it into your June's "Combings" but some how I managed to loose it with other bits of information. It was not until I was reading through after it came back from the printers that I realised that item was missing. 🐝

For the benefit of those of you that have just taken up beekeeping – once word gets round that you are a beekeeper you are automatically an expert on all flying insects - hover flies, masonry bees, mining bees, bumble bees, wasps – in fact anything that makes a buzz.

Read up on these other insects – for they are very interesting. 🐝

I got called to a small swarm of bees at the end of May. "I heard them buzzing a few days ago". Straight away alarm bells started ringing.

I was lead into the back garden to a wall with a Ceanothus (bees work them) growing up it. Against the wall was a nest made of leaves and grass which buzzed loudly when touched. This had me puzzled for a while. It was not honey bees. It was not a wasp's nest. It was not until a bumble bee emerged that it became apparent. I reckon that the nest had been built last summer by a mouse and re colonised by bumble bees this spring. I would have thought it too vulnerable for mice to live in over winter. 🐝

On Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> May I attended the "North East Region Forum" held at the Central Science Laboratory at Sand Hutton.

It was organised by Regional Bee Inspector Ivor Flatman.

David Gray, Tom Robinson and Alan Johnston from York where there plus about fifty others from around Yorkshire.

All sorts of facts and figures where quoted, but the one that stuck in my mind was concerning almond pollination in California.

There are close on 900,000 acres of almond orchards which require 2 million colonies of bees for pollination at a rate of 2 - 2½ colonies per acre. The logistics of getting all those bees to California are staggering!

The current price for colonies of bees in almond orchards is \$180 or roughly £120.



Tom Robinson organised a meeting at his apiary on 22<sup>nd</sup> May when only four members turned up.

To say the least, it was a poor turnout and does not encourage others to set up apiary meetings. Such meetings are especially valuable to new beekeepers as information can be gleaned from watching others work and different methods of working. 🐝

This year for the first time in a while, crops of linseed have been grown in our area. It is a pretty pale blue flower, standing about 12 to 15 inches high grown for its oil. As I understand it, bees do not work it.

Raw oil is used as wood treatment; boiled oil is used in paint manufacture as a drier. Dairy farmers also feed it to cattle to improve milk yield. 🐝

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## **YORKSHIRE BKA's QUEEN REARING COURSE.**

Yorkshire BKA held a weekend queen rearing course at their pavilion on the Show Ground at Harrogate on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> + Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> June. The tutor was Clive de Bruyn.

Places were limited to twenty four persons and was fully subscribed.

David Bough, Rob Coleman, Alan Johnston, Mike Marshall, Kate Wallace and I from York BKA attended. Tom Robinson was a gofer on one of the days.

We were taken through every aspect of selecting larvae to graft into queen cups – making up a cell raising colony and transferring queen cells into nuclei to mate.

There were a lot of hands on work, which made it more interesting rather than sitting listening to a speaker.

If you look on page five of Yorkshire BKA's July e.news letter you will see pictures of three of us at work during the course. 

## **PERFECT SUPERCEDURE.**

In early August Alan Johnston and I were going through a colony looking to see if there were any drones present as I was doing a demonstration the following day on clipping and marking queens.

To become proficient at this task you need lots of practice, so you use drones as there are usually plenty of them and, if you make a hash of it you are not losing a valuable queen.

We had been through four colonies without finding one drone (at this time of the year, if a colony is happy, then drones are thrown out). What we did see was an unmarked queen. On the next frame was a marked queen – this was mother and daughter.

As I said – I was doing a demonstration the next day so we decided to mark the daughter queen, so that those attending the demonstration could see two queens in a hive together. The marking was done using a press in cage. The daughter queen was duly marked and when the cage was removed she took to the air. We left the hive open for a while in the hope she would return. Next day when I looked through there was no sign of her.

What we saw was "Perfect Supercedure", where mother queen stays in the hive until her daughter emerges, mates and starts laying before being disposed of. It is the first time I have seen two queens in a hive. It may be more common than we think, as the period when both are together will be short and you will have to be looking through the colony just at the right time. Thinking about it a little further - if daughter takes a week to get mated, then a further week before she starts laying – mother and daughter could be together for two weeks !

"Imperfect Supercedure" is when mother is disposed of before her daughter starts laying.

Some of the books have little to say on the subject – others have nothing to say.



**This was an article in Yorkshire BKA 's July 2010 e.news.**

## **DATA PROTECTION + BEEKEEPING ASSOCIATIONS**

The following statement seeks to give guidance on data protection and beekeeping districts as clubs or societies. It is a response to a question from Richmond District to the Y.B.K.A. General Purposes Committee.

Please be aware that while we believe this statement to be accurate it is not a legal document.

As a club or society, district associations do not have to register with The Information Commissioners Office but do have to follow the law with regards to data protection.

For our purposes this can be summarised as:-

The district should hold the information securely on a single computer with a secure back-up disc kept separately. Alternatively a single written copy should be maintained in a secure location.

The information held should be only that data that it is reasonable for the district to hold in order to carry out its function as a club or society.

The information of associate members should be used only within the district for the purposes of the association.

Full members are also members of Yorkshire B.K.A. and British B.K.A. and therefore the data can be used within these organizations too, but only for the purposes of the association.

The district should not pass the information to any party other than Yorkshire B.K.A. or British.B.K.A., who in turn must not pass data to any third party. There is one exception to this - see below \*.

The district should tell members what data is held, where it is held and what it is used for.

Data must not be held for longer than it is needed.

Yorkshire B.K.A. and British B.K.A. are bound by the same rules as the district and must comply.

\* Yorkshire B.K.A. recommends that member's details are passed onto the Regional Bee Inspector (R.B.I.) by the district associations. The R.B.I. holds this information securely.

The reason for this is so that all members can be quickly informed of any disease outbreak in their area.

The information also allows the R.B.I. to contact members to arrange disease inspections.

The information can be used only for the purpose stated and cannot be passed onto any other government department or other organisation.

District associations must tell members that information will be passed to the R.B.I. and give members the opportunity to not have their information passed on.

A separate document, Compliance with the Data Protection Act - A Brief Guide, has been sent to district secretaries with this newsletter. 

## BEE GLOVES.

This is another article in July's Yorkshire e.news letter

Yorkshire BKA is keen to encourage all beekeepers to take precautions to prevent the spread of disease from apiary to apiary and also to encourage members to keep gentle bees.

A step towards this is to encourage the use of disposable gloves, however these can be very thin, short and not very confidence inspiring.

This prompted the search for longer, thicker gloves.

These gloves were found on the web after searching for long cuff nitrile disposable gloves and the desire to set a disposable glove standard for a teaching apiary.

They are about 12" long (rather than the standard 9") which means that the gap between wrist and sleeve can to all intents and purposes be made bee proof.

Many people find that the usual cheaper nitrile are too thin, as are latex, and often disintegrate when pulling them on - especially in hot weather and do not instil confidence.

Marigolds are better but can be too thick and are expensive. The thicker disposable gloves make for more confidence for beginners and more careful bee handling than thicker gauntlets.

The ultra safe (6 mil) is 1.5 x the thickness of the ultra grip which themselves are quite reasonable thickness. Also can get 4mil thick in pink!

Descriptions and details are on the [www.hygienedepot.co.uk](http://www.hygienedepot.co.uk) website under gloves

Blue -- ultragrip long cuff nitrile powder free

Violet -- ultrasafe long cuff nitrile powder free

In very 'rough' figures prices are in the range.....

Violet (thicker) 1 x 50 box @ £5.74 or £4.86/ box for 10 boxes ( 20p / 2 hand use)

Blue (thinner) are 1 x 100 / box @ £6.49 / box for 3 boxes or £6.20 / box for 10 boxes (12.5p / 2 hand use)

Thinner shorter cuff nitrile gloves are about 8.7p per 2 handed use. See website for varieties.

Contact our equipment officer if you would like Yorkshire BKA to look at bulk purchase of these items. 

Like many of you, I started my bee keeping using leather gloves – to minimise being stung. It worked up to a point. I did not get so many stings, but my gloves got them instead. Each sting left its pheromone behind and as time went on; bees would erupt from the hive when opened and pepper my gloves. Even putting them through the washing machine made no difference.

I even re queened a colony, thinking they where bad tempered, when in reality, they where reacting to my gloves.

When this was pointed out to me, I changed to Marigolds, but as they were a poor fit, soon went onto nitrile and latex gloves. Like the article states – I find them too thin – some times splitting when putting them on straight from the box.

These gloves Yorkshire are offering sound much better. 🐝

## **POWDERED SUGAR.**

Posted Saturday, November 9, 2002

SALEM BEEKEEPER'S GIZMO HAS HONEY INDUSTRY ABUZZ

Monday, November 4, 2002 - - By The Associated Press SALEM, OREGON —

A Salem beekeeper has invented a machine that uses powdered sugar instead of chemicals to rid bees of the deadly Varroa mite, a parasite wiping out hives around the country. The bees are sunk in a vat of powdered sugar, sent onto a vibrating screen and emerge free of the mite. Harry Vanderpool says a couple of pounds of powdered sugar and his invention — a machine he calls the Mitey-Victor — could help beekeepers get the upper hand against the mite. At stake are billions of dollars in the honey industry and in crops reliant on bee pollination.

Scientists trying to stop the Varroa mite have long known that powdered sugar will cause the mites to release their grip on honeybees, although they're not sure why. But Vanderpool's mechanical extractor is something new, and it has the world of apiculture buzzing with speculation.

The beekeeper's invention could provide an alternative to the chemical warfare that has been waged on Varroa mites for the past 15 years. Vanderpool's concept showed enough promise that the Oregon Department of Agriculture gave him nearly \$12,000 from a federal grant to develop a prototype. The machine is a two-level vibrating screener that is powered by a 12-volt battery. Made of stainless steel, the prototype is built on a two-wheeled trailer chassis. "This isn't rocket science whatsoever," Vanderpool said.

Bees and powdered sugar go in a hopper at the top. Mites and leftover sugar fall into separate drawers at the bottom. The Varroa mites dry up and die in less than an hour. Most of the bees fly out of the machine, and others are temporarily dazed and fall onto a conveyor that deposits them on the ground.

Powdered sugar is routinely used to deliver antibiotics to bees because the insects will eagerly consume it. Ken Kite, a Stayton resident who keeps beehives as a hobby, let Vanderpool test his machine on his bees. He was impressed, as well as amused: "It just bounced these sugar-coated bees out into a pile." The bees were unharmed after their journey through the Mitey-Victor, Kite said, and subsequent tests indicated that few mites remained in the hives. Vanderpool, who keeps 50 hives on his property south of Salem, says his bees have passed through the Mitey-Victor with no ill effects.

Editors note: - This is another idea that has not caught on. Your bees will not be very happy after being shaken up like that. The theory is sound as we regularly use icing sugar, shaken on to bees or comb tops as a means of reducing the

numbers of varroa in a colony. As I understand it, sugar gets onto their feet and causes them to lose their grip.

I have heard that it is better to use table sugar that has been put through a blender or coffee grinder rather than icing sugar. Icing sugar has an additive to stop it from setting solid and this may be detrimental to your bees. 🐝

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## **WORDS FOR YOUR BEEKEEPING DICTIONARY.**

**DUFOUR GLAND.** Is the alkaline gland in a worker's sting.

**ANHART GLAND.** Is on the pretarsus and is responsible for the bee's foot print odour.

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## **PAST EVENTS**

### **Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May.**

There were only **FOUR** members at Tom Robinson's apiary meeting when sealed cells were introduced to queenless colonies prepared previously.

### **Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> June.**

Report of YDBKA apiary meeting organised by David Gray.

This apiary meeting was to have been held at David Gray's apiary at New Earswick in January and April, and David asked if this apiary meeting could be transferred to our RDBKA apiary at Murton, thereby given members a chance to see the new tall "see-through" fence that Nigel and others have erected between the pavilion and the apiary, and to see the bee-friendly-planting that Fiona and others have launched in our new bee-garden.

David Bough kindly recruited Ivor Flatman (our regional bee inspector) to run this relocated apiary visit, and David Bough and Nigel both sent emails to members in good time informing them of the changed plan. However, not all our members are on email: apologies to those who may not have received the news. Ivor started his presentation with an excellent power-point talk about bee diseases, and about putting individual hives into quarantine, and about the process of putting a whole apiary into a barrier state when foul brood is present in one's locality.

Ivor then took us out to the apiary, and went through only one designated hive, illustrating practically all the hygiene processes that help to safeguard a hive inspection from introducing disease to the colony. For many present, including several beginners it was also a master class in the gentle art of handling bees and frames smoothly so that the bees are calm and co-operative. A very valuable afternoon.

### **Sunday 4 July. Murton.**

"THE ANCIENT CRAFT OF BEEKEEPING" a public open day at Murton Museum of Farming held 12noon to 4pm. Organised by David Gray.

The weather forecast was foul. So we planned for rain, including lots of indoor activities in the Bee Pavilion, such as talks/discussions and demonstrations of beekeeping equipment, beekeeping tools and clothing, and beekeeping techniques.

Instead, we had a day of high winds and almost unbroken sunshine! So we scrapped most of our indoor activities, except Tom Robinson's candle-making, the DVDs on our new screen, Emma Williams' crafts in the Function Room, and the demonstration of honey-harvesting and extraction followed by honey-tasting in the Pavilion.

We had two portable observation hives (Mike Marshall's in the Reception Foyer, and David Gray's in the Pavilion), and as always they proved magnetic to visitors young and old. Mike and Paulina Marshall provided commentary in the Foyer, and Kate Wallace and Julia Mander explained all afternoon what the bees were up to in the Pavilion observation hive.

Sue Hesp provided "continuity and information", and took the names of anyone interested in next year's Beginners Classes. David Bough, assisted by David Gray, demonstrated beekeeping techniques with two Apiary hives which were brought close to our new tall green see-through fence, with an eager crowd of families close to the fence but on the "safe" side. Very successful arrangement!

Our visitors were mostly families (often two parents with two primary-age children), the children clutching the beeswax candles they had made with Tom Robinson and craftwork from Emma's activity group. These families' interests and questions shaped the agenda for the day: they might have been bored by formal talks and discussions. So we abandoned these, plus the "planting bee-friendly plants in our new bee garden, but David Gray did run the frame-making class (outdoors in the sun) and several children took part. Other children turned the handle on the manual radial extractor, and there was a rush for honey-tasting.

Julia Mander, as our Publicity Officer, was interviewed at length during the day by Radio York: a number of members may have heard her broadcast?

We ended the day with a Volunteers' Tea Party, and a swift tidying-up before the gates closed at 5pm. It seems to have been a happy and successful occasion.

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> July.**

Our BBQ was held at Jenny Smith's home

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> August.** Committee meeting.

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> August.** Heather meeting.

**FORTHCOMING EVENTS.**

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September to Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> September.**

Harrogate Autumn Flower Show.

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September. Murton 19.30.**

A talk on honey showing by Tony Jefferson. To help you prepare your exhibits for next month's Honey Show.

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October. 19.30.**

York BKA Annual General Meeting at Murton.

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> October.**

National Honey Show will be held at St. Georges College, Weybridge, Surrey. KT15 2QS

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November. Murton.**

York BKA Annual Honey Show. Details of which are attached.

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December.**

Yorkshire BKA's Annual General Meeting at the Normanby Pavilion, Great Yorkshire Show Ground, Harrogate.

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2011. Murton, 19.30.**

York BKA Half Yearly General Meeting

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**FOR SALE.**

**CLARO BEES** for all your beekeeping supplies.

Large stock and very keen prices on all items.

Cedar National hive parts, frames (all in first and second quality), clothing, gloves, foundation, jars, spacers, tools, smokers, medicines, straps etc. etc. all normally in stock and at below list prices. Advice on the selection and use of beekeeping equipment always available. Open every Saturday morning 09.00 to 12.30 April to October inclusive.

Beside the Harrogate Arms, past the RHS Harlow Carr Gardens, Crag Lane, Harrogate, HG3 1QA, or by arrangement: - 01 423 567 315. A map showing our location is available at [www.hrbka.org.uk](http://www.hrbka.org.uk) 

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**Miss print.** Thorne's current catalogue, page 29 – “Honey dispenser”

“A 1.25 litre heavy duty honey dispenser suitable for filling small jars or catering establishments.” .....

And finally - TOOTHACHE: The pain that drives you to extraction.

**Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 16 June 2010.  
At the Bee Pavilion Murton.**

1. Attendance

David Gray Chairman, Tom Robinson Secretary,

Matt Atkinson Treasurer

David Bough, Nigel Davies, Sue Hesp, Julia Mander, Jenny Smith.

Hugh MacPerson

2.The minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 14 April 2010 were read out and confirmed as a true record Julia Mander Proposed, Nigel Davies Seconded.

3.Matters Arising,

A Insurance of Contents of Bee pavilion is still ongoing. (item 4.1)

B. Review of payments for exam fees is still ongoing (item4.2)

4. Secretaries Correspondence.

4.1 The new Course in a Case had been brought to the Association and it was agreed to purchase it at £50. Proposed Nigel Davies, Seconded Julia Mander, the account was passed to the treasurer for payment to BBKA

4.2 The attendance at Summer Fairs was presented and Nigel Davies offered to attend Rounder Park, all others no takers.

4.3 A commercial photographer wishes to take photos of honeybees and it was considered if he wished to attend Murton that Alan Johnston should be contacted. Action Tom Robinson.

5. Treasures Report.

5.1 Matt Atkinson said that the Auction raised £2044 and the Association benefited by £29.30, there as two discrepancies, 1 about 5 queen excluders not claimed and an amount owed by Jill Hudson.

The nucleus of bees prices were £120, £150, £190 and £190

5.2 There was at present £8993.59 in the CAF Bank and also more in the HSBC

5.3 The Co-op money, there is still £956 to be spent on setting up observation hives otherwise the remainder has been spent on the projects authorized.

There was some discussion the future of The Museum of Farming.

5.4 Nigel Davies advised that there are at present 126 paid up members of the association.

6. Sue Hesp gave a review of the beginners practical course and said there were 21 members with 3 more evenings to complete the course but there were only 2 small colonies for each evening.

Most members on the practical course now have their own colonies.

The apiary manager Alan Johnson has locked the colonies and there was some discussion 8 members were for this arrangement 1 against.

7. Storage arrangements for Apiary Grounds man Ken Barron

The existing shed has been racked out and the lawn mower is now kept in this shed with a "dead lock" this is acceptable to KB

8. Storage arrangements for Apiary Manager Alan Johnson.

There as discussion on the need to spend £500 for an 8 x 6 shed and it was agreed that ND speaks to AJ about the feasibility of using locked cupboards in the pavilion or in the kitchen which can be locked

If it was decided that a shed was required then the committee should revisit this item.

9. Sue Hesp had asked Kevin Welby to give a professional estimate for decorating the pavilion. He had commented on the existing diverse cupboard arrangements

After discussion it was agreed to ask Steve Hudson for an estimate of making the pavilion more presentable, either a complete refit, or replacement doors or indeed paint what is there. Action Sue Hesp

10 Auction Report, ND

There had been 93 lots most brought by 4 beekeepers from as far as Doncaster and 4 colonies of bees

As this auction was thought to be successful then we should go ahead with an auction in 2011.

11. Draft of the Programme for 2011.

Some members have made comments and ideas for classroom and apiary meetings There were ideas for videos of bee demonstrations and also the use of Oxalic Acid and varroa control. Action David Bough.

12. Plans for Murton "The Ancient Craft of Beekeeping" on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> July. DG and Emma Williams to co-ordinate  
Volunteers were requested and these will be available 12pm to 4pm.  
David Gray to co ordinate.
- 13 Rota for Sundays in July and August Action TR.  
Please see below and name to Tom Robinson ASAP please.
14. AOB.
- 14.1 There was discussion as to where the Association's extractors were and this is to be investigated. Action David Bough
- 14.2 York in Transition wishes for a speaker on Top Bar Hives and a taster talk on Beekeeping. No one on the committee has any experience of Top Bar Hives.  
Action Tom Robinson
- 14.3 David Bough is contacting BDI for the club and individual members after speaking to Bee Inspectors.
- 14.4 It was thought that tea and biscuits should be served at association meetings.  
Jenny Smith and Julia Mander made an offer to provide this.
- 14.5 David Gray reported that a long standing member was asking if there was someone moving EFB about. The bee inspector says this is not the case.
- 14.6 The Allotment Officer, Judith Ward has indicated that 1 colony of bees per acre on allotments is sufficient after which beekeepers will be on a waiting list.
- 14.7 Prior to the AGM John Fuller to be requested to include a proposal form for anyone interested to become a Committee Member of YDBKA Action TR

### **The Committee held a meeting on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> Aug.**

There is an interesting programme of events being produced for 2011 and this should be ready for the AGM

The Committee is completing an inventory of the association's equipment and we ask that any member who has items please contact David Bough on 07 713 256 522.

The Chairman and Secretary continue to attend the Yorkshire Museum of Farming management Meetings and will report at the AGM.

Although the AGM in 2004 decided to leave Bee Disease Insurance.  
Due to the incidence of Foul Brood, the Committee has contacted Bee Disease Insurance about re-joining and this will be reported to the AGM.

As you can see, there are some important aspects to discuss at the AGM, which will be on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October, in the Library of the Yorkshire Museum of Farming commencing at 7.30 pm so all members should try to attend.

There are at present 25 people who say they are interested in keeping bees and more are expected for the 2011 beginner's course with our association.

A Primary School in York has collected £150 for honeybees, which they would like to donate to the Association, and the class would like to visit our Association apiary. They have also sent money to the British BKA; this just shows what high profile honeybees have with

## HONEY SHOW 2010

The Associations annual honey show will be held at the Yorkshire Museum of Farming, Murton on Wednesday 17th November 2010.

Schedule of classes.

- Class 1. Honey light clear.
- Class 1a. Honey light clear. Novice.
- Class 2. Honey medium clear.
- Class 2a. Honey medium clear. Novice.
- Class 3. Honey dark clear.
- Class 3a. Honey dark clear. Novice.
- Class 4. Honey naturally set. Not stirred.
- Class 5. Honey soft set.
- Class 6. Heather honey.
- Class 7. Jar of honey for sale.
- Class 8. 8 oz cut comb.
- Class 9. Dry mead.
- Class 10. Sweet mead.
- Class 11. Block of beeswax less than 1 lb.
- Class 12. Block of beeswax more than 1 lb.
- Class 13. Honey fruit cake made to the standard recipe.
- Class 14. Honey cake to your own recipe.
- Class 15. Plain moulded beeswax candle. Minimum dimensions to be 1½ in diameter and 3" high. (Excluding the wick).
- Class 16. Beeswax candle. Any shape or size or method of production.
- Class 17. One shallow frame suitable for extraction.
- Class 18. Any beekeeping related photograph.

NOTES.

Classes 1 to 6	To be in 1lb round squat honey jars.
Class 7.	Can be any shape or size.
Classes 9 and 10	To be shown in 26 oz clear glass bottles of round section, with rounded shoulders. White flanged corks to be used.
Classes 11 and 12.	Moulds without a pattern are to be used.

The judge will decide on the best Honey in the show regardless of the class entered in, and the best exhibit which will take account of all entries.

Class 13                      The honey fruit cake is to be made to the following recipe :-

Ingredients :-

- 225 gr ( 8 oz ) self raising flour.
- 175 gr ( 6 oz ) honey.
- 110 gr ( 4 oz ) butter or margarine.
- 175 gr ( 6 oz ) sultanas.
- Two medium sized eggs and a pinch of salt.

Method :- Cream butter and honey together well. Beat eggs well and add them alternately with sifted flour and salt (save a little flour to add with the sultanas). Beat all well and lightly. A little milk may be added if necessary. Fold in the sultanas and stir well. Transfer to a 2lb loaf tin. Pre heat the oven to 180° C, 350° F, or gas mark 4. Bake for approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes.

GENERAL.

The Honey Show is open to paid up members of the York +DBKA.

A novice is a person who has taken up beekeeping since the previous years Honey Show. Novices may also enter classes 4 to 20 on equal terms with experienced exhibitors.

**Only one entry per person per class.**

Candles entered in classes 15 and 16 may be lit at the judges discretion.

The honey and wax used in exhibits shall be from the exhibitors own bees.

Points will be awarded to prize winners thus: - 3 points to the winner of each class, 2 points will go to second place and 1 point to third place.

John Fuller's Trophy will be awarded to the winner of Class 12

The Alf Race Memorial Cup will be awarded to the member with the most points. In the event of a draw, the member with the highest number of first places will be the winner.

The judge's decision will be final.

Entries will be accepted from 18.15 to 19.15 on the day. Judging will commence at 19.15.

## YORK & DISTRICT BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

4<sup>th</sup> July 2010

The 2010 Annual General Meeting will be held in the Library at the Yorkshire Museum of Farming on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October at 19.30 and, in accordance with the Constitution, the Committee for the forthcoming year will be appointed.

Please consider whether you would like to help run the Association, and nominate yourself below for the Committee and return it to the Chairman at the address above before the 1<sup>st</sup> October.

David Gray  
Chairman

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I wish to stand for the Committee of York and District Beekeepers Association

**Name**

**Address**

**Telephone Number**

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### FOOTNOTE:

Date: 23 August 2010 14:30

In July many of us enjoyed the wonderful barbecue that Jenny Smith gave us, helped by her family and friends including her friend Robin. Though we knew then that Robin was seriously ill, we were saddened to hear of his sudden death only a few days later. We send Jenny and her family our deep sympathy and our loving support.

After many years of service to York +DBKA as our Murton Apiary Manager and Grounds man, we hear that Ken Barran now wishes to retire. We all owe him much gratitude and we hope, Ken, that you will have many more happy years of beekeeping in your "retirement".

On Wed 20 October we shall hold our AGM at Murton, when we'll be electing a new Committee to take us into 2011. I do hope that many will send me the enclosed reply form offering to stand for the Committee. For the Association to renew itself we especially need offers from "the younger generation" and from those who have recently taken up beekeeping, as well as from more experienced beekeepers, please.

*David Gray (Chairman YDBKA)*