

# North Somerset Beekeepers



September 2019

Welcome to the latest edition of our branch newsletter. As usual your feedback and contributions are very welcome. Please send items to the editor by 25<sup>th</sup> of the month.

## **Branch talks and educational events – Rob Williams, Programme Manager**

Keep your eyes on the events programme for up to date information. It can be found on our website here:

<http://northsomersetbeekeepers.org/activities/>

### **Cooking with honey – Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> September, 2pm at Churchill Memorial Hall.**

The next branch meeting is an opportunity to share our experiences of cooking with honey. This is not a competition! The idea is sample something new: cakes, biscuits, loaves, buns, fruit compote, deserts, drinks, and then to swap recipes.

So, bring along something you have made using your own honey. Provide samples for tasting and a printed/written recipe. Then be prepared to give tips and describe the production process to curious colleagues.

Tea and coffee will be provided.

### **In at the deep end - 1st season Honey Farming in Somerset – Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September**

Jamie Llewelyn will be talking about his experience of setting up a honey farm in Somerset. Taking place at Tickenham Village Hall, starting at 2pm, followed by refreshments.

### **The Brains Trust – 5<sup>th</sup> October**

Another opportunity to pick the brains of some of our most renowned and experienced beekeepers. This is the second year we have held this event and there is always something new to learn or tips on how to manage common beekeeping problems.

The meeting will be held at Shipham Village Hall 2pm-4pm, including refreshments.

## **Upcoming local shows**

### *Winscombe Michaelmas Fair 14<sup>th</sup> September*

If you are interested in volunteering to help on the day, please contact Adrian Wells via WhatsApp or text on 07847 015 155.

If you want to sell honey products, you'll need to enter the Honey Show. Honey show rules can be found via this link. [http://www.winscombeca.org.uk/uploads/8/2/5/2/8252487/2019\\_programme\\_contents\\_final\\_pdf.pdf](http://www.winscombeca.org.uk/uploads/8/2/5/2/8252487/2019_programme_contents_final_pdf.pdf)

The entry form can be found here:

[http://www.winscombeca.org.uk/uploads/8/2/5/2/8252487/2019\\_entryform\\_final.doc](http://www.winscombeca.org.uk/uploads/8/2/5/2/8252487/2019_entryform_final.doc)

### *Avon Bristol Bee & Pollination show update*



David Capon, our Honey Judge and former Apiary Manager, was delighted to have won the Bristol Silver Queen for the second successive year.



This year, to mark the 90th anniversary of the queen it was awarded for a special class comprising 2 jars of honey and two cut comb pieces. This was what it was originally awarded for.

Also, Jane Boss came 1st at Bristol Honey Show in the Novice Class. She received an invitation for herself and one other to the National Honey Show in October at Sandown Racecourse on 24th Oct - 26th Oct 2019.

## Hire our honey extractor

A reminder that you can hire one of our three extractors plus uncapping trays and filter buckets. The cost is £5 for a four-day period. Contact Sheila James, who manages the hiring process, to arrange your time slot: [sheilajamesgardendesign@talktalk.net](mailto:sheilajamesgardendesign@talktalk.net)

## Branded garments

We have purchased a small number of T-shirts and sweatshirts in small, medium and large sizes, plus 6 caps, which carry our logo. They are being stored at the apiary. Additional garments can be purchased by individuals direct from Monmark, or as a group order if there is enough interest.

Let me know if you would like the club to order something. You can view the online catalogue here: <http://www.monmark.co.uk/catalogue/>

## Apiary update – Eric Sortwell

The move of our apiary to the new location in Langford is imminent. I shall be needing help to move the club hives and equipment from our current site in the next few weeks.

I would hope to complete the move by the end of September. Any help you can give would be very much appreciated. Please watch the Facebook page for more information in the coming weeks.



There was a good turnout for the honey extraction session, and we extracted 251 lbs of honey. Didn't our bees do well - with a little help from all the beekeepers that have been attending the weekly training sessions.

This honey will be used as a thank you to Solarsense for the use of their site and to the various speakers who contribute to our club sessions throughout the year. The remaining honey will be sold, proceeds going into club funds.

A big thank you to all those that attended good company and good fun. Don't forget the apiary opens every Sunday during the summer at 9.30am for coffee, tea and bee chat. Contact me at: [eric.sortwell@talktalk.net](mailto:eric.sortwell@talktalk.net)

## Wider educational events

*Wiltshire Bee & Honey Day, Saturday, 5 October at the Corn Exchange in Devizes*

There is still time to book to attend the Wiltshire Bee & Honey Day, and open honey show. It is free to attend. Further details on their website:

<http://www.wiltshirebeekeepers.org.uk/events-calendar>

Any questions, please contact Sophie Butcher: [sophie@activeinfo.co.uk](mailto:sophie@activeinfo.co.uk)

## Wax reclamation – Jenny Wakenshaw



The Bailey Frame change over the summer is finally finished. A super of honey and the frames were taken and rendered down, 1kg of wax and a load of muck!

If you have any wax/frames you wish to dispose of, you can drop them off, securely bagged, at:

- Branch apiary (Sundays)
- Annabel's home in Backwell – email to arrange: [busybee6@virginmedia.com](mailto:busybee6@virginmedia.com)
- Or Jenny will collect – call 07816 547 886

## Nuc for sale – Jane Boss

I have a 6 frame Nuc for sale for £120. It meets the BBKA standard and is ideal for over wintering. Ready now. Contact me at: [boss.jane@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:boss.jane@hotmail.co.uk)

## 10% discount from BB Wear

We have been offered 10% discount and free carriage on orders if we can provide proof of BBKA membership. If you are interested, please contact our Membership Secretary at [heather@pitch.plus.com](mailto:heather@pitch.plus.com) to obtain confirmation of your membership before placing your order over the phone or by email.

You will need to provide your name, address, phone number and details of your order. Contact BB Wear phone on 01872 562731 or email [shop@bbwear.co.uk](mailto:shop@bbwear.co.uk) See the website for further information: [www.bbwear.co.uk](http://www.bbwear.co.uk)