

North Bucks Bee Keepers' Association

Newsletter September 2013

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Calendar at-a-glance

22 nd September	Honey show
12 th October	County event and honey show
24-26 th October	National Honey Show

North Bucks honey show - 22nd September

It is almost time for the NBBKA annual honey show. This year, as last, it will be held in Stewkley village hall, LU7, although this year's event will not comprise the county-wide honey show (see below). Make sure that you furnish Cynthia with information about which classes you wish to enter. Please do so in advance of the show so that your stickers can be sent to you. Contact honeyshow@nbbka.org. There is no charge for entries this year. All documents, including entry form and recipes, can be found on our website in the members' area (<http://www.nbbka.org/members/Documents.aspx>)

Bucks county gathering and honey show - 12th October

This year High Wycombe BKA are hosting the county gathering and honey show, to be held at Trinity Church, London Road, High Wycombe on Saturday 12th October, starting 9am. There are still places left, in fact if you would like to go please register ASAP as the subscription rates are currently low enough to jeopardise the event. Please see this link for full details:

<http://www.buckscountybeekeepers.co.uk/whats-on/autumn-gathering-2013/>

Regular Columns

September Apiary Notes from Andrew Beer

Once again, may I hope that July's good weather brought you a fine crop which is now safely off your hives, extracted and in buckets or jars. Please, please remember to enter the Association's Honey Show here in Stewkley on Sunday, 22nd September.

I have written so much this year in these notes and I think you deserve a break! The important things now are:-

1. Stocks fit for winter. This especially applies to nucs/small colonies. Are they covering at least six frames National Deeps? If not, consider uniting with stronger stock.
2. Robbers. Maintain defences, especially narrow entrances: seal all gaps in hives; minimize time taken for inspections, be ever watchful.
3. Apply and complete any necessary varroa treatment.
4. Ensure all colonies go into winter with at least 20 kg of stores - feed as necessary to achieve before 20th September.
5. Check hive stands, hive parts, particularly roofs for leaks. Repair, renew, replace as needed.
6. Number, or re-number, any hives.
7. Open your 2014 Hive Register (- diary, call it what you will) and as a first entry for each hive, state its condition. For example: "27/8/2013. D1: White queen, G. Marshall 2011, seen. Very strong, varroa treated and fed. Consider re-queening with Ged Marshall "granddaughter" 2014."

Regards,
Andrew