

Y.B.K.A. eNews

AFFILIATED TO THE BRITISH BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

Volume 14 : November 2010

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CHAIRMANS LETTER

I was delighted today to hear that Yorkshire has once again been triumphant at the National honey show winning the counties shield for the third time in successive years, beating all other counties who had entered including those from Northern Ireland-an exceptional achievement from all involved.

I would like to personally congratulate Peter and Janet Scholick, Cath and Alan Brown, Wendy Maslin, Tony Richard and Alan Jefferson, Brian Nellis and all the others who all had entries in the show in various different sections contributing to the collective points count for the county. Congratulations one and all. This is something that very few counties have achieved over the shows many years, and I hope this spurs on all our honey show entrants throughout the county to participate in next years show to try and keep this very prestigious trophy and proceed to an even greater record of consecutive winning years at this the highest level.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Colonel Martin Young, former president of Y.B.K.A, for taking time out of his own very busy schedule to travel from his home now in Dumfriesshire in Scotland to London to represent the Y.B.K.A and give a short speech and award the shield on our behalf as the holding county. This is done every year by the winning counties president, however Col.Young kindly stood in for our present president The Lord Gisborough who was this year unavoidably detained elsewhere, my committee and I are very grateful, and I personally thank Peter Scholick who liaised with myself, Col. Young and the National honey show officials to make this possible. I look forward to displaying the shield at our AGM in December, this will be the third time we have achieved this award during my term as chairman - something that has never been achieved before.

Back on the home front, we had some very high infestations of varroa occurring in many apiaries in the later months of this year. Having treated them where possible before we feed them for the winter, it is often a good practice to have a very quick check on a mild and wind free day around the middle of December.

All you have to do is check the frames where the bees are in cluster, for this is where, if any, the brood will be. Quickly lift out two or three frames and inspect for any large brood pockets, if there are none as should be the case at this time of year then this is an excellent time to once again treat for varroa. The most successful of these treatments carried out at this time is the use of Oxalic acid trickled over the frames of bees whilst they are in the cluster, at a rate of 5ml per frame using a syringe gloves and goggles for protection. All these can be purchased from Thorne's or your local bee's equipment supplier. For absolute beginners it is best if you get the assistance of a beekeeper that has carried out this procedure before. This is a very affective treatment and ensures your bees come through the winter free of varoa and ready for the spring build up in good health. If on the other hand you don't wish to go down this route any treatment correctly carried out to the manufacturers specifications is better than none.

As I finish my term of office as chairman of Y.B.K.A in December I would just like to close by saying I have thoroughly enjoyed my time and with our new additions to committee I feel we have a very balanced team of dedicated officials, all working together to achieve greater educational skills for all our members with our program of module tutorials and various workshops, along with a better network of communications between the committee and the association via emails and our new system of area reps who will come and visit all associations over the winter months and report back on any problems you wish bringing to our attention. We can also offer a really good conference facility at Bishop Burton with all the best national and international speakers to hand each year to keep you all informed of the latest methods and approaches to better beekeeping.

Wishing you all a trouble free season to come

D. A. Shannon
[Dave Shannon](#)
Y.B.K.A Chairman
Happy Beekeeping

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RBI

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Wanted - Yorkshire Honey

We would like to buy your surplus Yorkshire Honey

Despite having a bumper crop ourselves we can sell much more than we produce so if you want to save yourself the bother of bottling and selling your honey then sell it to us in bulk - we'll pay good prices.

Contact Lyn Cadmore

email - billz.hunni@virgin.net

November

The Queen, now stopped laying, just her and about 10,000 daughters will see the winter through, and although Mum stays at home, her girls will still trip out on nice days and collect stores and pollen. Checks are made on the hive for wind damage and in some areas, woodpeckers. A good month for cleaning and repairing equipment that will be used for honey production later next year.

This is the first of three fairly quiet months. "Heft" hives every 6 weeks or so. There will be little change until February in "native type" bees, but the more prolific ones can breed throughout the winter and use a lot of food. There is free time to repair equipment and generally prepare for the coming season. Check hives occasionally to make sure all is well. It is useful to have glass or perspex crown boards so that you can take a quick look without disturbing the bees - although some people claim these result in condensation inside the hive.

The winter months do give an opportunity to read specialist books on subjects such as cookery, mead making, candle making, queen rearing etc. There are some good beekeeping websites that you might wish to visit.

Those of you involved in training can also look forward to the north eastern region "Train the Trainers" event which will be next spring.

[Bill Cadmore, Editor](#)

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Northern Beekeepers Network

The first meeting of the Northern Beekeepers Network was held at the YBKA pavilion on 16th October. Four of the invited northern BBKA associations invited to attend did so: Harrogate & Ripon, Cleveland, Manchester and Yorkshire. Lancaster had an event of their own organised for this date and so sent apologies.

The items discussed at the network meeting can be viewed at the website www.nbkn.org.uk.

Aims of the Network

To act as an informal discussion forum for executive committee members from BBKA member associations based in the north of England.

To allow attendees to explore issues of common concern and to exchange views on these issues in a cooperative and supportive environment.

To discuss with others groups or organisations issues of common concern related to our beekeeping.

To consider proposals for joint initiatives which individual executives and associations can then choose to take part in, or not, as it suits their membership.

To influence and support the BBKA.

Y o r k s h i r e B e e k e e p e r s A s s o c i a t i o n

Constitution

There will be no formal structure to the network other than:-

The network will hold meetings in June and January each year.

Every member may put forward projects or issues for discussion

In June possible motions for the BBKA ADM will be discussed

In January actual motions for the BBKA ADM will be discussed

Each member association will host the meetings in turn, who will provide accommodation and refreshments for the meeting.

A chairman will be elected every two years from amongst those attending the June meeting.

Proposals made by the network meetings will be sent to each association for further discussion.

A network website will be established to allow members to keep each other informed about events and activities and to allow the membership to contribute to discussions.

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Y.B.K.A. Bulk Purchase

Jar Purchases

Members are requested to contact Roger in order to purchase jars and containers from Spink/ Compac - not to contact the company directly.

Foundation & Varroa treatments

The order form for the bulk purchase of foundation etc. will be issued to district secretaries very soon. They are due to be returned to Roger by 4th December at the latest. Please note this new date which is a month earlier than previous years.

This means that you will have to get your personal order completed in advance of this date so that district officers can complete the district order form. No individual members orders will be processed - orders must be via districts.

New Members - Buying from YBKA saves you at least 35% on foundation prices - buy what you might need ready for next year so that you can get frames made up and ready during the winter.

Roger can be contacted on

[Equipment Officer](#)
roger@rchappel.orangehome.co.uk
01325315741

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Yorkshire Beekeepers' Association

Registered charity number 509743

Notice of the Annual General Meeting of the Yorkshire Beekeepers Association
to be held on Saturday the 4th December 2010 at the Normanby Pavilion
Great Yorkshire Show Ground Harrogate

Meeting Starts at 10:30 hrs

10:00 - 10:30 Coffee

10:30 - 11:30

Guest speaker: Celia Davis
Beekeeper v Bees

11:30 - A.G.M.

Agenda

- 3.1 Apologies for absence
- 3.2 Minutes of the March Conference
- 3.3 Matters arising
- 3.4 Chairmans address
- 3.5 Secretary's report
- 3.6 Treasurers report and budget for the following year.
- 3.7 Confirmation of Trustees
- 3.8 Bishop Burton
- 3.9 Countryside Days
- 3.10 Great Yorkshire Show
- 3.11 Equipment Officers Report
- 3.12 Y.A.S Report
- 3.13 Examinations Officers Report
- 3.14 Newsletter Editors Report
- 3.15 YBKA Website
- 3.16 Election of Officers:
- 3.17 Area Representatives
- 3.18 Proposed new district association
- 3.19 Northern Associations
- 3.20 Matters for consideration for the Executive Committee
- 3.21 AOB

Closure

NB: Lunch taken 12:30 - 13:30

A buffet lunch will be available at a cost of £4.00 per person
There will be no charge for Tea, coffee and biscuits.

Important Dates

Y.B.K.A. DATES

YBKA AGM December 4th
Yorkshire Showground

YBKA Spring Conference
March 12th 2011
Yorkshire Showground

Bee Breeding Event
March 26th (tbc)
Yorkshire Showground

Bishop Burton Conference
9th April 2011
Bishop Burton College

Please - Send in your district events for publishing - get members from surrounding districts to visit.

Yellow Course in a Case

Course in the case is a packaged programme of materials for running beekeeping courses. The white CiC for new beekeepers has been available for a while now. The yellow course in a case will be available soon and offers a range of materials for preparing for the BBKA Basic examination. Other 'colour' CiC will follow shortly eventually offering a suit of materials for all stages of beekeeper training.

The Course in a Case is available for purchase from BBKA at the reduced price of £50 - but only for a limited period. Purchase application forms are available from [Wendy Maslin](#).

BBKA are organising training events over the winter to help trainers use the materials as effectively as possible so getting the package at the cheaper rate makes sense.

YBKA has one copy for members to borrow.

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Y.B.K.A. Executive Committee

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