

## Fleet Beekeepers Association

### Newsletter July 2009

Where to start a Newsletter always seems to be a problem - for me at least! So many bee-matters of interest in the Press, on radio Farming Today and The Archers, TV news and 'phone calls from groups wanting a talk! Apart from the latter instance, all I can say to everyone is - read the papers, watch TV and listen to the radio for all the bee news you need!!

#### Summer Programme

In May everyone had a great day at Keith Brand's meeting in Crondall, with many new members getting their hands inside a hive for the first time; swarms a-plenty too - great instructions on how to hive 'em! How did you manage to arrange that too, Keith?

In June another well attended meeting at Simon Cavill's & Neil Viger's joint apiary in Newnham, near Hook. Lots of opportunities again for hands on experience. Thanks to all those who attended these events - hope you enjoyed them

#### Ongoing Summer/Autumn Programme

**Sat 18<sup>th</sup> July. Dogmersfield Show.** We have actively participated in this grand village event for many years and would encourage members to come along and lend a hand at our FBKA promotional gazebo. If you have honey for sale - then bring it along - but you have to help sell it!! - no 'dump-it-and-run-away' excuses allowed!!

**Sat 29<sup>th</sup> August 2pm** at Jane Malarkey's home, Hartley Mill in Hartley Wespall

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> Sep.** This will be the first of our autumn/winter meetings, again at the WI hut in Crookham Village and will be a demonstration of "Extracting Honey". This should be of especial interest to first-year beekeepers, who have yet to experience the actual process.

#### Diary Dates for later on ----

**Sun 4<sup>th</sup> Oct "Green & Global Fun Day"** 11am/4:30pm at Princes Hall, Aldershot - FBKA participating with display and promotion material. Help needed from members.

**29<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> Oct.** National Honey Show at St George's College, Woburn Park, Weybridge. *An absolute MUST* for everyone.

**Sat 14<sup>th</sup> Nov** Hampshire Beekeeping Association Convention & Honey Show at Barton Peveril College, Eastleigh. More details to follow.

## **Bee Diseases**

The Bee Inspector visited the area on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June and examined 40 hives at members' apiaries in Newnham, Greywell, Hartley Wespall, Hound Green and Dipley. Thankfully, we received a clean bill of health. In response to a Member's inquiry about hygiene related to hive inspection, I have attached a note of my response. In hindsight, I should also have said OK to dip the normal Marigold gloves in the soda solution.

Please note - our newly appointed Bee Inspector is Robert Carpenter Turner; if you suspect AFB or EFB brood disease he can be contacted on 01672-852265 or [rct@beekeeping.org.uk](mailto:rct@beekeeping.org.uk)

## **Late swarms**

"A swarm of bees in May is worth a load of hay,  
A swarm of bees in June is worth a silver spoon,  
A swarm of bees in July isn't worth a fly".

Not necessarily true related to July! But if you do pick one up, be sure to put it in a nuc box and feed it - you should be able to over-winter and then re-Q next March; alternatively, de-Q the swarm and join to another hive.

## **Start 'em young!**

Elsa - 10 year old daughter of member Simon Cavill; well done Elsa - you're doing just great - an inspiration to us all

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/cbbcnews/hi/newsid\\_8060000/newsid\\_8061500/8061536.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/cbbcnews/hi/newsid_8060000/newsid_8061500/8061536.stm)

## **Recipe**

Eileen - thanks for the recipe - attached.

## **How honeybees kill hornets**

Duncan - Mmmmmm - thanks for the Attachment.

**Buy Bee books on-line** - try [www.GroovyCart.co.uk/beebooks](http://www.GroovyCart.co.uk/beebooks)

That's it folks - see you at the Dogmersfield Show

Geoff

Sec Fleet BKA

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