

# Cumbria Bee Times

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(Views expressed in this newsletter are those of the editor and do not necessarily represent those of the CBKA)

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## Honey Show Stewarding –A Cautionary Tale

Having stewarded for several years the procedure becomes fairly routine.

Duties:

- 1) Remind the Judge, booked months before, of the date (sometimes hunt around for a substitute if said Judge has sudden more important engagement)
- 2) On the day lay out class labels and check exhibits are in correct classes. Help Novices over their nerves.
- 3) Provide all items needed for judging: Pen, paper, spoons for tasting, torch for assessing honey clarity, large knife for cutting honey cakes, and not forgetting a small glass for mead tasting.
- 4) Provide a suitable bag for transporting the equipment.

After the Show “Thank goodness that is over” go home and look forward to a holiday but remember to empty the bag used for stewarding duties completely.

Recently an experienced steward going through airport security on her way to Vancouver was apprehended, the x-ray scanner having detected a large kitchen knife in her carry-on bag. Luckily to support her protestations of innocence the bag also contained labels for various honey classes.

She was released after a short detention vowing never to steward again.

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### Reminder

CUMBRIA BEEKEEPERS ANNUAL HONEY SHOW  
Saturday 16th November At Newbiggin Village Hall

Your once a year chance to compare your Honey harvest against the rest.

There will also be talks by well known Speakers and Q&A session.

Full details will be available on the Cumbria Beekeepers website or from your Branch Secretary.



Autumn Harvest: Honey bee on a Dahlia flower

M. Williams

## Honey Labelling

If you have a honey surplus which you intend to sell to the public this year, there are a few rules which you must follow before setting out your stall.

First of all, remember that your label **must not** mislead. That lovely picture of the Heather moors, taken while on holiday, will not be a suitable background to your label unless the honey can be guaranteed to be pure heather honey. “Floral honey” or “Blossom honey” or just “Honey” are safe descriptions.

Weight **must** be displayed in metric measures first and size matters; for a 454gm jar the font **must** be at least 4mm high. You can add imperial measures but they **must** come after the metric weight. Your name and address **must** be put on the label as well as a separate note of “Country of Origin”. There **must** be a “Best before” date( choose your own!) and finally a lot number if you are selling through a third party, and not just from your own front door. Good luck!

