

Cumbria Bee Times

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WHITEHAVEN AND DISTRICT CELEBRATES!

Whitehaven and District branch of CBKA are delighted to have been awarded a substantial grant for the purchase of adult and children's bee suits by three local Neighbourhood Forums. They put in a grant application in early 2009 and made short presentations to the Waberthwaite and Bootle, Ennerdale and Gosforth, and the Egremont Neighbourhood forums. With suits for children and their accompanying Teachers/Guardians they will be able to get "up closer" to live bees and channel their enthusiasm in their formative years thereby ensuring some younger Apiarists in the area.

Invitations will be issued to local schools and youth groups to come and join Apiary meetings and handle bees under the guidance of experienced members of the Branch. There is also funding for Stereo microscopes to allow the closer inspection of bee anatomy and foster a greater understanding of these wonderful insects. Grateful thanks go to the Forums for their generosity.

The following has recently been published by the N Z Food Standards Agency (sounds tasty!)

VIEWS WANTED ON HONEYBEE VENOM

A New Zealand company has applied to the Food Standards Agency for approval to market the venom from the honeybee as a novel food ingredient. A novel food is a food or food ingredient that does not have a significant history of consumption within the European Union before 15 May 1997.

SEVEN GOLDEN RULES TO AVOID BEING STUNG

1. Keep only docile bees that are easy to handle.
2. Avoid cold, wet, thundery and windy days, especially for manipulations.
3. Be sure there is ample food, readily accessible for the bees to gorge on before opening a stock.
4. Avoid being overhot and bearing unpleasant odours upon your body.
5. Adopt the minimum personal protection necessary to ensure freedom from worry without hampering operations .
6. Handle the combs of bees with firm, gentle movements, avoiding erratic or sudden gestures
7. Tackle the bees with understanding and confidence. Do not keep a hive open for any longer than is necessary, decide beforehand what is to be done, then do not delay further, but get on with the good work.

(From HM Pearson 1956)

Executive Committee Officers

President : Nick Mills

Vice President: John Skinner

Treasurer : Christine Matthews

Secretary : Stephen Barnes

Examinations Secretary : Peter Matthews

Chairman: Val Sullivan

Next Executive meeting: Nov 28th
Keswick

Richard & Anne Kenyon

Burnsmead Farm, Little
Urswick, Ulverston,

Telephone 01229-869363

A hive for all your apiary equipment

Agents for Thornes

WHAT'S ON FOR CUMBRIAN BEEKEEPERS

Cumberland Show Rickerby Park
July 18th

Coniston Country Fair July 19th

Cockermouth Agricultural Show
August 1st

Rusland Show August 15th

Gosforth Agricultural Show and
Whitehaven & District Annual
Honey Show August 15th

Schedules and entry forms from
Mrs A McKenzie Fellside,
Wellington, Gosforth 01946725700

Closing date for entries July 24th

Cumbria Beekeepers Annual
Honey Show and Conference at
Keswick Nov 14th

And in time for Xmas: Wax day at
Braithwaite Dec 5th