

no longer reliable measurements to assess mite numbers in hives. John Beattie said that at the Keswick honey show and conference, Ian Molineux was suggesting that Oxalic Acid treatment was the best way forward when pyrethroid resistant mites occur, they are not known to be present at this time. Syd suggested that pre mixed oxalic acid treatments as sold by Thornes were safer than mixing ones own.

A vote of thanks was made to Lorraine Priestley for her endeavours with the raffle and providing refreshments at our meetings.

Meeting closed 9.40pm.

Carlisle Beekeepers' Association

November 2008 Newsletter

Chairman's Report

Hello to everyone, here we are at the end of another beekeeping year and did you miss the summer like I did? Although there were plenty of bees during the season and the bees brought in plenty of nectar, we had some hives with over 100lbs honey in the supers, during July the weather changed and the supers were empty. We still have the bees so lets hope 2009 will be better.

During the year at the association apiary the members who came attempted to get the hives up to strength to produce new queens and a surplus of honey. Alas the queen rearing did not get off the ground, but there was a small amount of honey removed, extracted and sold at Dalston Agricultural Show.

On a more happier note two of our members, Christine Matthews and Lorraine Priestley who entered exhibits into the National Honey Show held at Addlestone, Surrey on the 29th, 30th October and the 1st November won several prizes for honey, wax, needlework and honey fruit cakes. Christine won the Thistle Trophy for most points in the honey, wax and mead classes gained by a beekeeper with hives in Scotland. Well done to you both and lets hope more people from Cumbria enter next year.

Well, now to the forthcoming AGM I want to see more people there this year. It is your club so come and have your say as to how you want the club to run during 2009. I have been your chairman for the past four years and I have decided to stand down as I feel I have exhausted my thoughts and ideas during the past year, so we are looking for you, to take up the challenge to take the club forward.

Peter Matthews

Contact Details

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Secretary: Walter McPhee, Low Buildings, Castlesteads, Brampton. CA8 2AX Tel: 016977 41530

Treasurer: Donna Melbourne, 16 Woodleigh, Walton, Brampton. CA8 2DS Tel: 016977 3591

Events

Monday 29th September. Donna Melbourne gave a superb talk on plants for bees well illustrated by the dozens of specimens she brought along.

Monday 27th October. The Annual Honey Show was held at Houghton Village Hall. The Best exhibit was granulated honey shown by Joe Glaister, Syd Parker won the award for most points and also the honeypot for his biscuits. Peter Matthews was the judge. Despite the lack of honey this year there was a reasonable entry of a very good standard. Well done everybody. What a pity some weren't entered into the National Honey Show where they could have taken a placing. I will compile a list of all the winners for the AGM.

Diary Dates

Saturday 15th November. Cumbria Autumn Convention and Honey Show at Southey Street Methodist Church Hall, Keswick. See below for schedule and programme.

Monday 24th November. Carlisle BKA AGM at Houghton Village Hall at 7.30 pm see below for agenda and minutes of last AGM.

End March/beginning April 2009 for 6 sessions on a Saturday morning or Sunday afternoon - Introduction to Beekeeping classes. I already have had one person express interest. If any one else wants further details or would like to register their interest please contact me, Christine Matthews on silverhive@hotmail.com or speak to me at the meetings. If you have kept bees for at least a year and/or have attended a course for beginners and would like to take the Basic Assessment next year please contact the Cumbria BKA exams secretary, Peter Matthews contact details below.

CUMBRIA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION Carlisle Branch

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2008
will be held on Monday November 24th, at 7.30 p.m.
in the Houghton Village Hall.

AGENDA

1. Attendance, apologies for absence
2. Minutes of AGM, Nov. 07
3. Matters arising from minutes
4. Correspondence
5. Reports a) Chairman
 b) Treasurer
6. .Adoption of reports
7. Election of officers
 - a. Chairman
 - b. Vice Chairman
 - c. Secretary
 - d. Treasurer
 - e. Events secretary
8. Committee members
9. Apiary Committee
10. Cumbria Area Representative
11. Appointment of auditor
12. Apiary reports & business
13. Setting Branch subs
14. 2009 program
15. AOB

We hope that as many members attend as possible, air their views and stand for election. There will be a few vacant positions, needed are members to stand for Chairman to take over from Peter, who is standing down after 4 years, also we need a vice chair to carry on from Peter who is unable to attend due to ill health.

CUMBRIA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION CARLISLE BRANCH

Minutes for AGM November 07

Attending- Lorraine Priestley, Donna Melbourne, Walter McPhee, Lauren Harrison, Liam McNulty, David Tunnicliff, Richard Pollyblank, Charlie Savage, Gordon Edgar, Angela Addison, Peter Addison, Nicholas Mills, Pat Whiteley, Patricia Message, John Beattie, Monica Parker, Syd Parker, Allan Beattie, Stephen Robson, and Jim Annels.

Apologies- Sue Holm, David Colborn, Ron Melbourne, Dieter Gringinger, John Priddle, Peter Matthews, Christine Matthews, Mike Ainscow, Ingrid Mair, Gerry Pasque, Margaret Johnston and Glen Dawes.

Minutes of AGM 06 were distributed Lorraine Priestley had been omitted from the list of committee members.

Correspondence- from Cumbria BKA about a pair of candlesticks left at honey show.

Sue Holm, moving to Norfolk we wish her good bee keeping in her new location.

John Reid wanting wax to breed wax moth larvae for finches -He was discouraged.

A resignation letter from long standing member Gordon Richins wishing us well.

The chairman's report was read by Lorraine Separate sheet Adoption of reports prop. Angela

Treasurers report from Donna Seperate sheet seconded Syd

Election of officers

Chairman	Peter Matthews	Prop. John Beattie	sec. Nick Mills
Vice Chair	Peter Addison	Prop. John Beattie	sec. Lorraine Priestley
Secretary	Walter McPhee	Prop. Angela Addison	sec. Syd Parker
Treasurer	Donna Melbourne	Prop. Lorraine	sec. Peter Addison
Events Secretary, (& newsletter editor)	Christine Matthews	Prop. Walter	sec Lorraine

Committee members Officers plus, Richard Polyblank, Syd & Monica Parker, Lorraine Priestley, Jim Annels, Dieter Gringinger, Mike Ainscow (To be asked) Voted in on block, Prop. Syd Parker sec. Lorraine Priestley. Nicholas Mills & Patricia Message are standing down, we thank them for their past contributions to the work of the committee.

Cumbria Executive Representative Peter Matthews, with one place not filled.

Auditor - Stella Bell Proposed Donna Melbourne, Seconded Nick Mills It was also decided to make a gift of £25 and 3 jars of honey, Donna to deliver.

Apiary report read by Lorraine on separate sheet

Apiary business Peter Addison said it was important that beginners got to handle bees. John Beattie suggested due to health & safety it was preferable to have two people attending when the apiary hives were gone through, and a buddy/mentor system would help to bring this about. Richard, Dieter, Lauren (spring), David and Jim would be willing to be paired up with an apiary hive minder. Syd and Walter offered to look after a hive. (2 others will needed to be found).

The above and Lorraine would constitute the apiary committee.

Lorraine suggested that Jerry should be written to to thank him for cutting the grass, money was suggested then a £20 voucher M&S or Wilkinsons, secretary to send.

Peter suggested that people looking after apiary hives should get their expenses paid for, John said the helpers/mentor/hive buddies were getting coaching and should not be included in honorarium.

Allan Beattie proposed that the hive minders should get an honer aria to cover their expenses. Seconded Peter Addison. Committee to decide amount.

John said the friction and competition between people at the apiary when we last had this system of looking after the hives would have to be avoided. Walter suggested if the apiary committee met a few times a year these problems could be discussed, it was suggested that after a apiary meeting might be a good time.

The suggested amount for branch subs was explained BBKA £13, Cumbria AA £3 and Carlisle branch £5, John Beattie asked and what has the BBKA done for us, Insurance, Government and EEC representation, examinations, Stoneleigh convention, web site, and etc. Nick said the BBKA capitations were half last year because of the change in the payment date.

Walter proposed the amount, seconded Angela.

The outline programme for next years meetings, Dinner at the Wallfoot

Pat asks if more people can book as she will need 20 places booked by early December to keep the room, Walter will send out an email.

February, Safe handling, Jim Annels, Houghton.

March, Cheese, Wine & Quiz, Houghton (ask Christine)

April, Bee Diseases, Houghton.

April-October apiary meetings.

September, Bee plants, Donna, Houghton

October, Honey show (preparing honey) Houghton (ask Peter)

November, AGM.

(After the AGM talking with Peter we decided that if possible we would have a wax evening,(the possibility for this was discussed at the meeting and the quiz night won out,) at the end of January

There was some concern about the cost of the dinner and the possibility of having a buffet at Houghton or a different less expensive venue, it was thought that arrangements for this year were too far advanced to make changes, but suggestions and venues for next year should be made to a committee member.

Lorraine suggested that because of there long support of the branch and local bee-keepers, Ron Melbourne and Patricia Message should be made Honorary life members of the Carlisle Branch, Gordon Edgar was added to the group because of his long term support, Proposed Peter seconded Syd.

Purchases and whether we need an apiary manager can be left up to the apiary committee to decide. Nick wanted it to be known that he was willing to teach the diseases section of the beginners talks. Christine had suggested that she would arrange tuition for the basic bee-keeping exam in the spring.

Allan Beattie and Nick Mills both stated that natural mite mortality as measured by mite drop onto a mesh floor insert and by uncapping drone brood, were

