

National Honey Show Summer Newsletter 2018

Plans are once again well in hand for this year's National Honey Show being held at our fantastic venue: Sandown Park, Esher on **October 25th-27th** this year

[The lecture programme](#) is now available to view on the website; and the workshop programme will be available for booking from 1st September.

As always there is much to choose from each day. On the Thursday there are morning lectures running before the show opens officially at 12 noon to offer interest while traders are still setting up and judging is taking place.

On Friday there is the programme of main lectures and the series of Bee Craft lectures from young bee research scientists from UK universities.

Alongside our Saturday lecture programme which focuses on front line (cutting edge?) research presented by world renowned beekeepers, there is a very popular series of lectures on beekeeping aimed at the newer beekeeper and those thinking of taking up this absorbing and rewarding hobby. This year these will consist of informal lecture/talks by Lynfa Davies (Welsh Beekeepers), Anne Rowberry (Avon Beekeepers), Bob Smith (Kent Beekeepers) and Roger Patterson (Sussex Beekeepers).

Putting on this incredible show each year takes a lot of time and enthusiasm from the large team of volunteers. It also needs a sizeable zap of financial input, to which end your membership, entry fees, the trade hall and all our sponsors make the most incredible and valuable contribution. If you can help in any way it would be much appreciated. Some Local Associations helped last year by sponsoring lectures, and their members were delighted to see their Association acknowledged in the Show Schedule. If your association would like to help in this way, do ask us for the list. You could sponsor a main lecture, make a smaller contribution to sponsoring one of the beginners lectures, or maybe a workshop or entry class. All most welcome.

National Honey Show Entry Classes

There are one or two new ones each year. For this year we have three new classes and a couple of changes:

- *A short video clip of 45-60 seconds duration on an interesting beekeeping topic
- *A single jar of honey from a charity supporting beekeeping activities overseas
- *Three jars of different types of honey

Instead of 6 biscuits, we have changed the class to 6 small gluten free cakes (any recipe containing honey)

For beekeepers living within the M25, London Beekeepers have changed their classes to: -

Two jars, judged on flavour and aroma.

Two jars of jam or marmalade with honey as the only sweetening agent

One jar of honey, to be judged on flavour and aroma, but the novelty of the container will also be judged.

Entries need to be delivered by Wednesday afternoon (24th) to be in place for judging which starts promptly Thursday morning. Local Associations do a brilliant job of clubbing together to deliver entries to the show.

There are also various collection points around the country where you can deliver your entries, and there are various options for what happens at the end of the show. You can collect entries in person on Saturday afternoon, or arrange for the stewards to package them up again and return them with the carrier who brought them to the show. The Gift Classes will be sold from the stall in the foyer and the proceeds go to support the National Honey Show.

Additional collection points are:

Any Thornes Shop:

Beehive Business Park, Rand, **Market Rasen, Lincs**, LN8 5NJ (including the Rand Open Day 13th October)

Thornes of Windsor, Oakley Green Farm, Oakley Green, **Windsor, Berks**, SL4 4PZ

Thornes of Stockbridge, Chilbolton Down Farm, Chilbolton Down, **Stockbridge, Hampshire**, SO20 6BU

Thornes of Devon, Quince Honey Farm, North Road, **South Molton, Devon**, EX36 3AZ

Thornes of Scotland, Newburgh Industrial Estate, Cupar Road, **Newburgh, Fife**, KY14 6HA

Also:

Maisemore Apiaries, Old Road, **Maisemore, Gloucestershire**, GL2 8HT

B J Sherriff, Carclew Rd, Mylor Downs, **Falmouth, Cornwall**, TR11 5UN

Northern Bee Books, Scout Bottom La/Scout Rd, **Hebden Bridge, W Yorkshire** HX7 5JS

You will obviously need to send in entry forms to our organisers as usual. The Schedule of classes for this year's show will be going live on the website very soon, and entry forms can be sent in to Jill, our entries sec, from 1st August.

***** Please remember: the deadline for entries for the early classes is 10th September. *****

The early classes 95 to 102 include photography, microscopy, videos and

essays. This includes the new class 101 for a clip on a beekeeping subject max 30 secs.

There's still time to organise a coach or minibus outing to the Show. There's plenty of free parking for Show visitors at Sandown Park, and if some of your party only want a quick visit, or you maybe want to extend the visit, there are plenty of other attractions in the area: Windsor, Wisley, Kew and Hampton Court are nearby as well as many other interesting places.

We look forward to seeing you at the Show and hope you'll enjoy it as much as we do.

Val Rhenius