



BEEKEEPERS

## October 2017 Newsletter

**President: Bryan Hopper**

### **Committee members 2017**

Mike Benson	Chairman
Deborah Cosgrove	
Ian Cowdy	Editor - Newsletter
Stephen Greenaway	Vice Chairman, Spray and swarm liaison.
Clive Harris	Treasurer
Kathy Hobson	Secretary, membership secretary.
Andy Jones	
Nicola Perrett	
John Woodstock	

### **Meeting 26.10.17**

As mentioned below this meeting is the Club's AGM followed by an Open Forum. It would be good if we could have some new members on the Committee. The Committee meet every two months for a couple of hours. Nominations will be accepted at the meeting.

### **Apiary tasks**

Below is what happens when you take frames for extraction and forget to replace them! Looks fantastic – but a huge problem now with how to deal with it.



This month you should be making sure the colonies have enough stores for the winter and tidying up around the apiary. Not much more to do with the bees now as the temperature slowly drops. Start planning what you want to achieve next year with your beekeeping, we are running a Basic course in March/April – open to all members who have been keeping bees for at least 12 months. Dust off the beekeeping books and reread them! It's surprising the things you forget.

## Swindon honey show

A very successful evening with lots of entries, below is the list of winners of the different categories

### SDBKA HONEY SHOW RESULTS 2017

CLASS	1ST	2ND	3RD
1lb Light run honey	<i>Peter Hinton</i>	<i>Mike Benson</i>	<i>Jennie Hawkins</i>
1lb Medium run honey	<i>Mike Benson</i>	<i>Mike Benson</i>	<i>Jennie Hawkins</i>
1lb Soft set honey	<i>Mike Benson</i>	<i>Mike Benson</i>	-----
Blind Taste Honey	<i>David Easter</i>	<i>Stephen Greenaway</i>	<i>Andy Jones</i>
Bottle of mead - Dry	<i>Mike Benson</i>	<i>Mike Benson</i>	<i>Clive Harris</i>
Bottle of mead - Sweet	<i>Mike Benson</i>	<i>Mike Benson</i>	<i>Jennie Hawkins</i>
Bottle of flavoured mead	<i>Mike Benson</i>	<i>Mike Benson</i>	<i>Jennie Hawkins</i>
Display of bee products	<i>Mike Benson</i>	<i>Jennie Hawkins</i>	-----
A5-size photograph	<i>Andy Jones</i>	<i>Mike Benson</i>	<i>Ian Cowdy</i>
Honey cake to recipe	<i>Sheila Rumming</i>	<i>Sallyann Gladman</i>	-----

### TROPHIES

Best in Show	<i>Mike Benson (Swwet Mead)</i>
Highest Points	<i>Mike Benson</i>
Best mead	<i>Mike Benson</i>
Novice	-----
Best Cake	<i>Sheila Rumming</i>

Well done to everyone who entered, how about next year someone trying to knock “King” Benson from first place – won’t be easy as Mike puts a lot of work into preparing his entries.



Above; Mike receiving the “Best in Show” award

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### Training and Education

If anybody wants to undertake the Basic assessment next year (March to April) please contact Stephen Greenaway asap. Starting Beekeeping course dates will be available soon

**Club logo clothing:**

Nicola Perrett holds a small stock of fleeces, polo and sweat shirts. If you would like to purchase one please contact her at [nicola.perrett@btinternet.com](mailto:nicola.perrett@btinternet.com)

**Club Apiary:**

Honey removed, Varroa treatment delayed on two colonies as they were still filling supers with honey.

A work party will be required to help clear up the apiary – the more volunteers the better. – date to follow

**Wiltshire Honey Show**

This is taking place on the 21<sup>st</sup> October at The town Hall, Market square, Trowbridge, BA14 8EQ.

**Club meetings:**

Meetings are held on the last Thursday of the month throughout the year except December.

Venue is in the Skittle Alley at the Haydon Wick Club, Blunsdon road, Swindon SN25 1JD.

Start time 1930 hrs

**Next meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup> October**

Swindon and District Beekeepers AGM. Followed by an open forum if time permits.

Future meetings for 2017:

30<sup>th</sup> November Mead making by Mike Benson and Clive Harris

7<sup>th</sup> December Skittles evening

2018 meetings – topics are open for suggestion, definitely for March or April we will run a swarm prevention talk with a practical demonstration.(minus bees though)

Any suggestions for talks etc. please pass to Kathy Hobson or Mike Benson

**Miscellaneous**

If you have pictures of anything related to beekeeping or something unusual please send to me so it can be included in future newsletters.

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