

Conwy BKA, September news.

Message to 100 plus Conwy bee people.....

Our season of indoor meetings starts on **Monday 24th September** at St. David's College, Llandudno at 7.30pm.

Mr. John Fleet from Henllan will give a talk on *Those clever little bees, or How the bees communicate.*

This talk comes well-recommended by members of South Clwyd BKA, and is highly suitable for new beekeepers.

Wednesday 26th September. *Farmers' Market* at the Conwy RSPB Reserve, 9am to 2pm.

No meeting in October, because of St David's half term.

Monday 12th November. *Association Honey Show and Beekeeping Quiz.*

See website for schedule www.conwybeekeepers.org.uk

Message from Steve Porter, Chairman, Conwy BKA:

Dear members of Conwy Beekeepers..

It is with sadness yet great excitement that I have to tell you my family and I are moving across the water..to Bardsey Island! We have been visiting the Island for some time now, and for the last three years I have also kept 2 hives on the Island, which have done very well indeed.(150lbs from 2 hives this year!)

A local farmer from Aberdaron has taken on the farming tenancy of the Island and has been looking for people to live on the Island and run the farm.We have been offered the job and have decided to go for it! This is for an initial 'trial' of one year.

There are many challenges ahead, not least home-schooling Rachel and Ben and trying to remember all my sheep-farming years...but also saying goodbye to so many friends. Please remember that Aberdaron is only one and a half hours away..then a short boat trip to Ynys Enlli (weather permitting!)

I have enjoyed my time with Conwy Beekeepers and being on the committee but I have every confidence in Chris Clarke as the new Chairman and also in the rest of the committee in seeing the Association continue to go from strength to strength...I shall be continuing my membership!

Please come and see us and keep in touch...we shall circulate our phone number when we have one..

Happy beekeeping!

Steve Porter

We all wish Steve and his family the best of luck, and many thanks for their years of support. We hope to arrange an Apiary Meeting on Bardsey next summer.

Conwy Honey Fair

Last week's Honey Fair was probably the best and the busiest in modern times. The High Street was thronged with visitors from 9am. Ten

honey mongers were selling honey faster than ever. One regular customer arrived with a wheelbarrow and bought honey from us all, taking 40 jars of honey back to Caernarfon. (Not by wheelbarrow. His van was parked in Sychnant Pass!). See attached pic showing people queuing at a honey stall. Thanks to Alan Morley who collected £122 in aid of Bees for Development from the stallholders. <http://www.beesfordevelopment.org/>

Beekeeping Course

The new course started at Tal y Cafn on Saturday. It was great to welcome 33 keen new beekeepers to the two apiary meetings. We're recruiting for the 2008/2009 course now!

Into winter

The bees need your help now, to ensure they survive the winter.

- Check that each hive has a laying queen and enough stores.
- Don't delay your feeding until October. If it turns cold, the bees may not take down the feed.
- Get the feed down quickly, using a large feeder; then treat with Apiguard, if you haven't so already, while the weather is still warm. Apiguard needs three weeks of warm weather.
- I'll be adding a super of drawn comb in early October, in case we get a late flow from the ivy, to keep the quick-setting ivy honey out of the brood boxes.

Best wishes.

Peter McFadden

Secretary, Conwy BKA.