

# September NEWSLETTER 2007

## Ormskirk & Croston Beekeepers Branch

Chairman Ray Dowson 01704-892118 Email: ([Rayd@dowsonr.Freeserve.co.uk](mailto:Rayd@dowsonr.Freeserve.co.uk))  
Secretary Mike Beazer 01257-791582 Email: ([mrbsales@ntlworld.com](mailto:mrbsales@ntlworld.com))  
Treasurer Keith Hemming 01204-694897 Email: ([keithdh1204@aol.com](mailto:keithdh1204@aol.com))

Website: [www.ormskirkbeekeepers.co.uk](http://www.ormskirkbeekeepers.co.uk)

### Introduction

Greetings everyone and here we are in September already – this year has simply flown by yet we appear to somehow missed “**Summer!!**”. In this connection there will have been varying degrees of success in honey yealds. It is therefore more important than ever that we make every effort to ensure we begin 2008 with strong colonies. Read on.....

#### “PREPARING for WINTER”:-

General meeting at the out apiary on **8<sup>th</sup> September at 2.30pm**. We are hoping to once again enjoy the splendid services of guest speaker Mr. Ian McLean. Members are advised to make every effort to take advantage of Ian’s expertise and advice, in the hope that we begin “*next season*” with potentially strong colonies.

#### Annual BBQ

Our most grateful thanks to Jan & Cathy Johnston who really did us proud. I’m certain that those of you who attended enjoyed the beautiful surroundings, delightful company and the wonderful hospitality of Cathy & Jan.



Here’s Cathy tending the Barby – with Martin wrestling open another bottle of Champers!!

### Fancy a Hotdog?

Even the dogs could’nt resist the stimulating aroma’s of Cathy’s expertise – “Giz a bite..... Aaaw....go on, purleeeeee!!”



It was certainly a pleasure to relax, unwind and enjoy a splendid afternoon, despite a slight chill in the air on occasions:-



Good healthy conversation ‘putting the world to rights!’ whilst John Wilkinson.....that star of stage screen and the “Wigan Observer” tackles a rather splendid looking piece of Steak!!!!!!

Actually John was featured in a double page spread in the *Summer Supplement* of the Wigan

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Observer which was excellent PR for beekeeping in general & of course our branch in particular. Well done John and thanks again.

Here's Bill Patterson tucking in to Cathy's renowned green bean salad!



Here sharing a moment on cam with Richard and Yvonne.



All things considered a most pleasureable afternoon. Our sincere thanks again to Cathy & Jan for your kindness, hospitality and hard work – for me it was a personal pleasure to meet you both and I very much hope we can visit you again in the future.

As Jan emphasised if the weather is particularly kind ...then Mainswood is a magnificent venue for such an event. A sentiment I'm certain we all endorse.

### DATE FOR THE DIARY:-

The Lancashire and North West Beekeepers Association Members' Annual Show and Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2007 at:-

West Bradford Village Hall  
Grindleton Road  
West Bradford  
Clitheroe  
BB7 4TE

This is a wonderful opportunity for both experienced members and indeed novices to enter any of the 23 show classes across the various categories of honey, beeswax, candles, mead, candles & confectionary. Our branch featured quite well last year.

**N.B.** Only fully paid up members can enter the show and entry forms must be submitted by 21<sup>st</sup> September 2007 to:-

Hon. Exhibitions Officer  
Mr. Rob Myron



Telephone: 01744 21614

I have received a small quantity of the show leaflet which includes the entry form and details of the afternoons programme which starts at 12.00 and ends at 4.45pm with The Humphreys Memorial Lecture being given by John Charlton who, members may recall spent an interesting evening with us last year with an introduction to Microscopy.

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### Annual Convention

As another reminder, the next Lancashire and North West Beekeepers Association Annual Convention will be held on Saturday October 20<sup>th</sup> 2007 at:-

West Bradford Village Hall  
Grindleton Road  
West Bradford  
Clitheroe  
BB7 4TE

Speakers:

This years guest speakers will be Prof. Robert Pickard the Director-General of the [British Nutrition Foundation](#) and Dr. Juliet Osborne a Pollination Ecologist from [Rothampstead Research](#).

Prof. Robert Pickard will be giving two talks entitled 'The Wonderful Things About Bees' and 'The Evolution of Societies'.

Dr. Juliet Osborne will be giving a talk entitled 'Bumblebee Behaviour & Ecology'.

### Admission:-

The ticket prices will be:-

£8.00 Full day  
£4.00 Half day  
FREE Juniors (under 18)

### Contact

Contact the Education Officer:-  
Barbara Roderick by *e-mail* or on  
(01704) – 877855 for more information.

There is also a link to the Convention on our own website:

<http://www.ormskirkbeekeepers.co.uk/lancashire/convention>

This is where cups/trophies are presented to winners in the various categories, and indeed where examination certificates are presented.

Here are a few worthy recipients from 2006:-



Our very own Derrick Harris receiving his basic assessment certificate – very well done and congrats again Derrick.



Another very worthy winner Keith Hemming receiving the Mrs E Boardman cup in the **Class 8** for his honey. Well done Keith....an inspiration to us all.

So...come on guys 'n gals – we know it's been a difficult year but if for example you're thrilled with your first crop of honey, then why not enter it perhaps in the 'Novice Class' and who knows.....that 'taste' of success may give you the 'buzz'.

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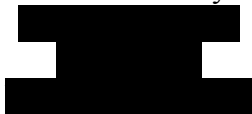
Our chairman Ray Dowson receiving his award for Module One *Honeybee Management* and in addition of course he was presented with the certificate with distinction for Module 2 *Honeybee Products and Forage* as did Keith Hemming, John Wilkinson, Richard Mac Rae.

Ray also was awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> spot in the Southport Cup for Light Honey **Class 1**. He also attained 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the **Class 6** Soft Set Honey Prize Card and 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the **Class 7** Honey Gathered in 2006 Jasper Cup.

#### Bees Available:-

A repeat from the August issue, with my apologies to Teresa and Terry – I omitted the 87 from their email details so.....  
Should any member urgently require bees (very placid) then please contact the following members who, sadly may be giving up:-

Teresa & Terry



Tel: 01257 253298 or  
email: [teresathompson87@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:teresathompson87@blueyonder.co.uk)

Mike Beazer  
Branch Secretary September 2007