

The National Honey Show

Newsletter

The 82nd National Honey Show is just weeks away. It is the U.K.'s 'gold standard' honey show – the equivalent of Wimbledon for tennis players. It will be held in Weybridge, Surrey from 24th to 26th October. There are almost 250 classes and beekeepers come from all over the world to enter so it is truly an international show. Why not book a ticket now to see the best of the best?

What's on?

Apart from the world class honey show there will be a full programme of workshops and lectures throughout the event and a wide selection of trade stands with lots of equipment and books to buy. You can see the line-up and download the show schedule on the NHS website http://www.honeyshow.co.uk/lecture_convention.shtml and you will receive all the details in the programme that comes with tickets purchased in advance. Advance tickets plus the 2013 schedule of classes and show entry application are available now. New for this year is Class 57, a microscopy slide plus there are even more lectures and workshops. So there is something for everyone.

Nicola Simcock, a PhD research student in the honeybee lab at Newcastle University, will be visiting this year's National Honey Show. She needs our help for her research, which is primarily focused on trying to understand what honeybees are able to taste. She has recently begun work on assessing the contents of honey in order to compare what the bees can taste with what the bees actually eat. In addition, the data collected will be used in a larger project: the insect pollinators initiative, that involves a number of labs across the UK.

To accomplish this goal, Nicola is appealing to any beekeeper willing to get involved, to please provide her with a small sample of honey from their hive, and complete the collection sheet downloadable from: <http://www.honeyshow.co.uk/nicola-simcock.shtml> (there will be copies available at the show if you don't have internet access). Once published, this data will be accessible to the public.

How much does it cost?

You can become a member of the National Honey Show for £12 and then entry for the duration of the show is free. Admission for non-members is £15 per day. Accompanied children of 16 years and under are free. You can join the NHS by filling out the form at <http://www.honeyshow.co.uk/membership.shtml>. You can also pay on the door but it is better to get an advance ticket and avoid the queue.

The official closing date for show entries is 1st October but late entries will be accepted until 20th October on payment of a £5 late entry fee. Entry forms for classes 54 -62 i.e. Video, Photographic, Microscope Slides and Essay Classes must be received by 9th September; late entries are not accepted.

How do I get my entries to the show?

Exhibitors delivering personally to the show must bring their entries on Wednesday 23rd October between 2.30pm and 6pm. You hand them over to a steward who will stage them for you. You could use a courier or post. In this case your entry must arrive at St Georges College after Wednesday 16th October and before noon on 23rd October. Why not persuade one member of your association to bring all the entries from your association to the show. You could split the fuel costs. Don't forget someone will also need to collect them on Saturday 26th October after the show closes at 4.30pm. Thornes have, once again, kindly agreed to take exhibits to the show on your behalf. You can drop your entries at any Thornes agent south of the Scottish border. Jeremy Burbidge of Northern Bee Books has kindly offered the same facility to anyone who can deliver to him by Monday 21st October and please call him before you visit. Scout Bottom Farm, Mytholmroyd, Hebden Bridge, Yorkshire HX7 5JS Tel: 01422 882751 – jeremy@recordermail.demon.co.uk

Where is the show?

The show is at St Georges College, Woburn Hill, Weybridge, Surrey, KT15 2QS

Opening times: Thursday 24th October 9am to 6pm (open in the morning but limited to lectures)
Friday 25th October 9am to 6pm
Saturday 26th October 9am to 4.30pm

How do I get there?

By road: from junction 11 of the M25 (marked Chertsey) follow signs to Weybridge. At the roundabout, take the third exit, A317 to Weybridge. Turn left at the next roundabout into the college.

By rail: Either take a taxi from Weybridge Station or change at Addlestone. From Addlestone, turn left and the College is approximately 5 minutes walk on the far side of the roundabout. The Trains leave from Waterloo Station. Rail connections from Weybridge to Addlestone are not guaranteed. For further details Tel: 08457 48 49 50 or www.nationalrail.co.uk.

If you apply for membership before the show you will receive a programme which includes maps and directions or visit the website http://www.honeyshow.co.uk/transport_links.shtml

National Honey Show 2014

St Georges College has been our best venue yet, but the show is so successful we are outgrowing the venue. Look out for details about the 2014 venue at this year's National Honey Show.

See you there!