

Surrey Beekeepers Association

CROYDON DIVISION

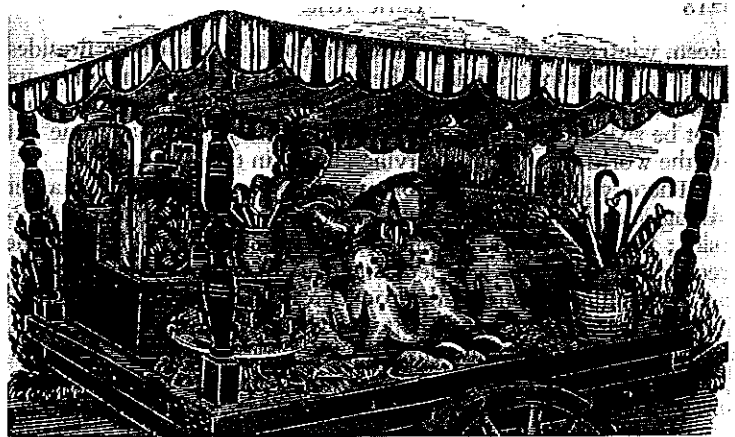
Chairman Mark Stott 0208 684 1098
Treasurer Tamar Cavett 0208 406 9258
Secretary Joyce Atkinson 0208 657 2817

www.croydonbeekeepers.co.uk



SEPTEMBER 2011

Another of the woodcuts from an early edition of 'Lark Rise to Candleford' by Flora Thompson which Colin Packington acquired and let me have copies of the illustrations. The woodcuts were made by Julie Neild. This one heads chapter XV titled 'Harvest Home' but seems not to include honey which hopefully you will all have as part of your harvest.



DATES TO NOTE

APIARY MEETINGS

Sundays 11 th. and 25 th. September
Hartley Down at 2-30 p.m. but 2-00 p.m. for those who wish to follow David Shepherd's illustrated talks for newcomers to beekeeping.

BARBECUE

Sunday 4 th. September 3-00 p.m.
At Hartley Down Apiary
No beekeeping, just a pleasant afternoon, only £7-00 for David Shepherd's cooking to be enjoyed but bring your own drinks AND let him know you will be going as soon as possible so he has enough food for all.
0208 668 4538 or 07791 47743

OUR OWN HONEY SHOW

Saturday 1 st. October at Warlingham Methodist Church Hall
Details with a schedule of classes and entry form were with last months newsletter but a copy of the schedule and form are on one page of this edition. For any more information contact our show secretary Joyce Atkinson 0208 657 2817
Please make some entries, there are classes even if you have no honey of your own cake, biscuits, sweetmeats, photos and general interest AND send your entry form at least a week before please, late entries are accepted but only if Joyce has time on the day.

NATIONAL HONEY SHOW

27 th. to 29 th. October at Weybridge, the 80 th. one
A copy of the schedule, with every thing you need to know about it can be obtained from
Sandra Rickwood 02033 558716
In 1921 and 1922 Kent and Surrey Beekeepers Associations held honey shows at the
Crystal Palace and in 1923 it was decided to broaden this so it became the
National Honey Show therefor try and help to make Surrey's entries up.

HARTLEY DOWN HONEY HARVEST

About a dozen members came to help extract the honey from our apiary and it is now
ready to be strained and bottled so thanks to all who helped. Whilst some did the work others
had an introduction to pollen and how to prepare slides from both flowers and honey for
viewing under a microscope to identify pollen grains and hopefully find out where our
bees find nectare to produce our honey. Quite a few of our members have microscopes so
perhaps some will make a study of this. If you would like help in using a microscope
the Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society could be worth joining, contact
Brian Lancaster 0208 668 6909

This was the nearest we have had this year to a garden meeting, in the past these have
been enjoyed by all who attended them so let us know if you would host one next year please.

ITEMS OWNED BY OUR DIVISION FOR LOAN TO MEMBERS

Honey extractor.
Tank for straining and bottling.
Uncapping tray.
Foundation press.
Microscope, binocular for dissecting.

These items together with a selection of books on beekeeping are kept
by Terry Stephensmith 01883 625196

And now for something completely different

(taken from the Ocean Nestorian Association's newsletter)

TESCO EMPLOYEE

A man in a London Tesco tries to buy half a cauliflower. The very young produce assistant tells him that they sell only whole cauliflowers. The man persists and asks to see the manager. The boy says he'll ask his manager about it.

Walking into the back room, the boy said to his manager 'Some prat out there wants to buy half a cauliflower.' As he finished his sentence, he turned to find the man standing right behind him, so he added, 'And this gentleman has kindly offered to buy the other half.'

The manager approved the deal, and the man went on his way.

Later the manager said to the boy, 'I was impressed with the way you got yourself out of that situation earlier. We like people who think on their feet here. Where are you from, son?'

'Liverpool, sir,' the boy replied.

'Well, why did you leave Liverpool?' the manager asked.

The boy said, 'Sir, there's nothing but whores and footballers up there.'

'Really?' said the manager. 'My wife is from Liverpool.'

'You're kidding?' replied the boy. 'Who did she play for?'

News from the Hartley Down Apiary

Back in May we were all keen on furthering our queen rearing expertise: well..... we never said we were experts! It was a very dry start to the year, nectar was in scarce supply and we had to do some emergency feeding of our colonies to get them through the period. We made several attempts at grafting and using queen trapping systems but success was very limited: we're putting it down to experience and we are certainly encouraged enough to try again next year.

We talked for some time about increasing the wild flower population at the apiary and perhaps doing some meadow planting. Over the years it seems that much thought has gone into introducing bee friendly trees and shrubs into the area and such plants as cotoneaster, rose and buddleia are very much in evidence and looking good when in flower. There is also a huge amount of ivy in the back corner which should produce some late season forage when it matures (only well established ivy will flower). When mowing the grass it was evident that there was a wealth of plants dominating the vegetation. To properly cultivate a new 'meadow', the advice was that we would need to completely strip and re-seed the area (planting plugs I am told will have only limited success); which seemed rather unnecessary when perhaps we already had the bee friendly wild plants just waiting to appear. At quite a late stage in the year we left some areas to mature and were thrilled to see large patches of flowers: dandelions, buttercups, white clover, yarrow, marjoram, vetch, bistort, self heal, hawkweed; also some thistle, mallow and campion, plus quite a few others still to be identified. Many thanks for the favourable comments we already have had, although I am not sure whether the dandelions (in the earlier part of the year) go down well in an allotment area – perhaps we should start cropping them for salad!

The roe deer are still frequent visitors to the apiary: back in May two of them were cheeky enough to run behind our Chairman's back when I was talking to him and disappear under the fence. I've also noticed the long grass has been flattened in places where they have been lying down in our new meadow – unless it was one of our members having a quiet nap in the grass, but I doubt it! On a rather more annoying note we noticed that the bark of one of our newly planted apple trees (proudly displaying one apple) has been quite badly stripped. Our adjacent plot holders have completely fenced off their 'tree area' after experiencing similar damage.

Emails are bad for the planet, says study

By Henry Samuel in Paris

ELECTRONIC messages might save trees but they are bad for the planet, creating 19g (0.7oz) of carbon dioxide for every email sent, a French government energy-saving agency has warned.

Sending group emails can increase an individual's carbon emissions four-fold, France's agency for the environment, Ademe, found. And not copying in another employee can save 44kg (97lb) per person per year.

"Sending an email with a photo attachment consumes more energy than you

might think," said Alain Anglade, an Ademe engineer. "In the circuit from the sender's computer to the receiver's, it is copied 10 times by message and relay servers. Each time, electricity is consumed," he told *Le Parisien* newspaper.

The study also looked at the impact of web surfing. It found that a company with 100 employees generates almost 14 tons of carbon dioxide – the equivalent of 13 return air trips from Paris to New York – per year.

Assuming each person receives 58 emails and sends 33 emails per day on average, they produce 136kg (300lb) of

carbon dioxide each annually. "Cutting by 10 per cent the number of emails systematically including your superior and colleagues allows you to gain the equivalent of one ton of CO₂ per year," noted Ademe.

The figures take into account the energy used to create participating computers and that used to send and receive messages. They also factor in emissions by data centres around the world.

Ademe also found that reducing print-outs by 10 per cent in a 100-person company reduces CO₂ emissions by five tons per year.

