



# CBKA Newsletter

## November 2010

Volume 25/3. Download our Newsletters from [www.teesbees.co.uk](http://www.teesbees.co.uk)

### Social Evening

Our next event is our social evening to be held at Caseys Brasserie, High Street, Great Ayton. We meet at 7.00pm, we have Simon Cross from Tyne Tees Televisions The Whole Nine Yards, and founder of the Community Horticulture web site, as our guest speaker. This is followed at 8.00pm by a three course meal and Christmas raffle. Cost is £20.00 per person, please reserve your place as soon as possible with a £5.00 pound deposit per person to any committee member.

#### Beekeepers Christmas Meal

##### Starter

**Cream of Leek and Potato Soup**

**Salad of Fresh Figs Walnuts and Yorkshire Blue Cheese**  
*Drizzled with honey*

**Smooth Chicken Liver Pate**  
*Served with toast and chutney.*

##### Main Course

**Honey Roast Gammon**  
*Served with Champ potatoes and whole grain mustard sauce served with a mushroom sauce.*

**Slow Cooked Chicken Leg**  
*Stuffed with pork and chestnut stuffing and wrapped in smoked bacon*

**Cashew Nut Cheese and Mushroom Roast**  
*Served with tomato sauce*

**Pan Fried Fillet of Salmon**  
*Served with a potato rosti and beetroot and horseradish purée*

##### Puddings

**Honey and Pistachio Nut Steamed Pudding**  
*Served with crème fraiche*

**Dark Chocolate and Brandy Pot**  
*Served with homemade orange sorbet and a shortbread thin biscuit*

**Cheese Selection**  
*Served with crackers and quince jelly*

### Communication

Our secretary relies on E mail and post to keep you in touch with the work of the association, please check that your details are up to date, every day he has E mails returned incorrect address. Please find time to confirm your details with the secretary.

### Heather Rent

Did you use the association apiary at Wayworth Farm this year? Please remember to 'pay your rent' as a guide min one jar of honey per hive to Mr Martin This is a valuable asset to the association and we must look after our landlord!

### Natural Beekeeping Trust

Thanks to Unal Metti for pointing out the following article from the Daily Telegraph, written by Geoffrey Lean.

#### Beekeepers are just plain bad for bees

The Natural Beekeeping Trust of which Carol Ann Duffy the Poet Laureate is patron, is, stinging about such common practises as using pesticides to keep down mites, clipping queens wings, "robbing" the hives by taking honey in the autumn "exploitation" in which "the essential needs of the bees are disregarded" so as to maximise production. Such "intensive" techniques, the trust believes may be at the root of Colony Collapse Disorder that is decimating the insects across Europe and North America.

It argues that swarming keeps colonies healthy, and may even control mites, although beekeepers are naturally upset when the queen buzzes off with up to 70% of her followers.

Now when I first read this I thought it was basically nonsense but if you follow the link to <http://www.naturalbeekeepingtrust.org/> some of there thinking is quit interesting, the link to Warré Beekeeping gives an insight in to the work of Abbé Émile Warré (1867-1951) a French monk working with 350 hives of various designs with the aim of producing a hive that was simple, economical, bee-friendly and assured a surplus for the beekeeper. The result was his People's Hive (*Ruche Populaire*) whose construction and operation he described in his book *Beekeeping For All (L' Apiculture Pour Tous*, 12th edition) Warré's hive comprises tiers of identical boxes fitted with top-bars, but no frames. Full plans are on the web site.

## Northdale Northalerton

Next summer Northdale day centre for adults with a learning disability are going to create a war time allotment, could you help? What type of hive would have been used, do you have a hive (without bees) that they could borrow. Anything else that would help would be much appreciated, old smoker, bee suite etc. If you can help please E mail me on [Derek.Passmore@sky.com](mailto:Derek.Passmore@sky.com)

## Committee Members

We are still short of members on the Tees bees committee, If you would like to help in any way please contact any committee member, no previous experience necessary, the only rewards are a hot cuppa (thanks Ada) and a friendly welcome.

## Beginners Class's

If you are interested in our new beginners class to start in January 2011 please contact any committee member, class's will be held for 30mins before our regular monthly meetings at Southlands Centre. This is the perfect opportunity to meet fellow new bee keepers and learn the basics of our hobby in a

warm and comfortable environment.

Don't forget that if you would like to keep bees but are unsure what to do, you may be able to keep them at the association apiary for your first season, contact any member of the committee for details.

CLIPPING THE QUEEN'S WINGS



## Raffles

A raffle is held at each of our evening meetings to help raise funds, at our last committee meeting it was decided to make the prizes bee related, so now you have a chance to increase your tool kit as well as support our club. During tonight's meeting there will also be tickets on sale for our Christmas raffle with a first prize of a fresh turkey, second a fresh chicken plus more to come! If you miss tonight's Christmas raffle, tickets can be bought by calling Derek on 01642724652, all proceeds from the Christmas raffle will go to Northdale Day centre at Northalerton. <http://www.northdale.org.uk/>

## Trainee working at Northdale



## The Bad Beekeepers Club

Bill Turnbull, perhaps better known for reading the morning news on BBC1 and the occasional outing on Strictly Come Dancing, has written his account of how he became a beekeeper, or in his own words 'how I stumbled into the curious world of bees - and became (perhaps) a better person' Bill describes his book as a guide to what not to do when starting beekeeping, I read and thoroughly enjoyed it, although I could have lived without the Strictly Come Dancing section! Perhaps the ideal Christmas present for your new beekeeping friends.

Secretary: Derek Herring, 8 Wardale Avenue, Acklam

Tel 01642 282030

Meetings are held in the Southlands Leisure Centre, Ormesby Road, Middlesbrough,

TS3 0HG on the third Monday of the month from September to April at 7:15pm. Visitors and new members welcome.

### **BEEKEEPING SUPPLIES**

Allan, Tony & Richard Jefferson

Stonlea Apiaries, 1 Dalehouse Bank, Staithes, Cleveland, TS13 5AN

Tel 07749 73 1945 or Tel/Fax 01947 893811

[tony@stoneleabees.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:tony@stoneleabees.wanadoo.co.uk)

Suppliers of all beekeeping equipment

Honey bought and sold

### **LONGNEWTON GRANGE BEEKEEPERS SUPPLIES**

John R. Allen

The Grange, Back Lane, Longnewton, Stockton-on-Tees TS21 1BN

Tel 01642 585896 or Tel Home 01642 898073

[beekeepingsupplies@longnewton.fsworld.co.uk](mailto:beekeepingsupplies@longnewton.fsworld.co.uk)

Suppliers of beekeeping equipment.