

 **The Vice -Presidents Tips And Tricks for the month of July** 

I expect great things this year, so make sure that you have enough supers on now but reduce them by the end of July to a minimum to encourage the bees to finish them off properly.

Association BBQ

This will be on Sunday the 31 August at Townhead Farm from 1200 until about 4pm. John is going to provide a BBQ and sausages and burgers from the range of Townhead products. This was a fantastic event last year so bring along all the family. Please email Gordon (secretary@helensburghbees.com) to let us know numbers. There will be a cost of a few pounds per head, payable on the day to cover meat and rolls (exact cost tba). Contributions of salads and sweets will be appreciated. There may be the opportunity to go through a few hives. Directions and map at the Townhead Farm website townheadfarm.net, see location.

Food Glorious Food!

The association dinner will be held at Helensburgh Golf Club on Saturday the 25th October. Three delicious course for £20 - £25. This is proving popular so please contact Ben Belly and book a place as soon as possible as we need to finalise numbers. 01436 842692 beebella-my@masafish.com.

Wax workshop

TBA. Places will be limited. Please contact Ben as soon as the date is published. An email will go out once date is set.

Helensburgh and Garelochhead Horticultural Society Annual Flower Show

This on Saturday the 30th August in the Victoria Halls. There will be categories for :-

1. Best Super Frame

2. One jar of set honey

3. One jar of liquid Honey

The honey should be in one pound standard honey jars. Full details later, but remember to put aside a jar or two of your best when extracting. No entry fee and the honey will be returned. Strutt your stuff!

Scottish Beekeepers Association Autumn Convention (SBA)

The highlight of the bee year takes place on Saturday the 27th September 0845am - 5:10 pm the SRUC Barony campus near Dumfries. It is closer than you think and takes only about 1 and three quarters of an hour to get there. Excellent speakers and the £30 includes morning coffee/tea, lunch, afternoon tea break. There will be opportunities for bargains at the trade stands and additional 1 1/2 hour microscopy workshops are available at £5 extra with limited numbers on a first come first served basis (see SBA magazine) Mike Thornley is organising this event so we want to give it our best support. Cheques should be made out to SBA and sent to Mike at Glenarn, Glenarn Road, Rhu, Helensburgh, G84 8LL. Please indicate choice of lunch (Traditional Steak Pie, Fish, Chicken salad or Vegetable Lasagne) and include a SAE for programme and receipt if desired. We hope to organise a bit of car sharing. Alastair Cameron will try to organise that at our meeting on the 25th September but an e-mail to camay2390@gmail.com would be helpful.

Varroa

It is vital to treat for varroa immediately that the honey crop is taken off. This means very early in August if possible. This ensures healthy bees to see the colony through the winter. Use Apivar or Apiguard. Doing nothing may mean that your bees will die. The Apivar is now available to those who have ordered it. Please contact Mike Thornley at his new e-mail address masthome@btinternet.com or phone 01436 820493. He has laid out about £400 for this so we should collect and pay for it as soon as possible.