

NEWSLETTER – #200 January 2015

## Helensburgh Winter Festival

Thanks to Cameron and Janet and to everyone who everyone who helped. **Each day the honey sold out in 2 hours.** 128 pounds of honey were sold at £5.50 a pound, and with other items such as candles, face creams etc. **£1500 in total was earned** by the members who had put stuff in to be sold. The cost of the stall was paid for by our association (another benefit of membership) and as Cameron Maccallum pointed out, if you are a member of the SBA then their insurance covers you for product liability. Another good reason to join the Scottish Beekeepers Association! Trading standards did check all the stalls (about 80 or so) and were happy with all our labelling and presentation.



## Next Meeting AGM and Film by Gill Sentinella “The Honey Bee”

The record for the formal part of the AGM stands at 14 minutes so don't be put off! The film is truly superb covering aspects of honey bee life and behavior. Some of the information was entirely new to your editor but basic beekeeping information is also included, so it is really excellent for beginners and old hands alike. Not to be missed. As usual we meet at 7:15 at Rhu Church hall **Thursday the 22nd January**. Hopefully we will have a few goodies to enjoy as well.



The Vice-Presidents Tips And Tricks for the month of January



1. Keep hefting to check that there is enough food. If you do it every few weeks you will learn to recognise when the hive is getting light.
2. Last chance to treat with oxalic acid if you have not already done so. See Jim McCulloch or Mike Thornley if you need any.
3. Check after storms that the hives have not been blown over or flooded

4. Check that the entrances are not blocked with dead bees ( An old metal coat hanger suitably bent is handy for clearing out debris without disturbing the bees too much)



A Good New Year to everyone and to misquote, 'Lang may your smoker reek!'