



Event Reports (latest report is shown here. Previous reports can be found on our Library page [here](#))

## 2023

This year the show season started with a trip to Guilsfield on the second Thursday in August. Luckily the forecast rain held off and the show was well attended. It felt lovely to be putting up the 'dome' again amidst the hustle and bustle of other stall holders. Although quiet, sales were good, especially those of honey and our famous knitted bees.

The next show on the agenda was Berriew on the 26th August. The 'Show Gods' were smiling as this was a scorching hot day sandwiched between weeks of rain. Again, sales of both bee products and honey were good. Interestingly, there were fewer people wanting information on keeping bees this year and many more wanting to know what they could do to help the declining populations of other bees and pollinators. Luckily, we had plenty of the Welsh Government publication 'Planting for Pollinators' to give away.

Newtown food festival was the first week in September and this was a huge success. The sun shone for the whole 2 days and we were very glad of the shade our dome provided. Our stand was especially busy on the Saturday when there was barely a chance to draw breath. The opportunity to try on a children's bee suit proved to be especially popular and a great photo opportunity for Mums and Dads. We enjoyed chatting to beekeepers of long standing and those who were thinking about keeping bees for the first time. It was a real treat to talk with the photographer of many of the wonderful bee pictures on our display boards and one of the original team who set up the association apiary at Gregynog.

Our show season is over for this year and it was a big success. None of these events happen without the hard work and enthusiasm of a large number of volunteers, so a huge thankyou to anybody who helped to make these shows a success. We are always looking for new people to join us, so if you would like to get involved next year, the committee would love to hear from you.

## 2023 World Bee Day (May 21st)

World Bee Day was celebrated by MBKA at Gregynog on 21st May this year. There were lots of activities on offer including a talk in the gardens with an expert on pollinators and plants, an opportunity to buy pollinating plants and local honey as well as bee products and knitted bees.

Joy had gathered together various honeys from both members of the association and supermarkets and invited people to complete tasting notes. It was no surprise that the apiary honey was the most popular.

The weather was glorious so Carolle was able to 'turn children into bees' and with antennae on their heads, cleaned their cells, fed other 'bees' and finally took part in the waggle dance! An experience that the children (and some adult anticipants) will never forget.

Rachel K provided a guided trip to the apiary and Mal had a Warre hive, a top bar hive and a skep on display and provided many visitors with the 'lowdown' on alternative beekeeping.

In the run up to world bee day Mark and Carole visited Meiford School and talked about bees to pupils in their final year at primary school.

Mark took along a hive to illustrate his talk and Carolle dressed as a bee, 'turned' the pupils into bees by feeding them honey.

This event was a huge success and this is down to all of the hard work of the many volunteers who gave unstintingly of their time.

In addition to those already mentioned this included Rachel B, Lizanne, Jill H, Jane and Simon