

## The Surrey Honey Show 2024

The show this year was held at new venue - Denbies Wine Estate, Dorking on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> September. The weather was glorious and the location splendid, we had 43 entrants into the show, entering 196 entries, truly a Blue-Ribbon show.

Overall winning Association was Reigate and for the second year, claimed the Vincent Challenge Cup with 118 points. Kingston came second overall with 62 points, Croydon and Weybridge tied on 60 points each.

Adela Brnakova, Kingston, won the Ken Reed Trophy with her beeswax entry and came fourth with 21 points in the Composite Cup, this award is for an individual Surrey member with the most points, it was won by John Mayne from Croydon with 49 points.

Tom Wood, Kingston won the Colman cup with his two cut-combs in containers, beating Barry his dad into second place!

There were three new junior classes this year, Max Bavington from Reigate, with two matching jars of honey won the new Hederow Cup for most points in the Junior classes. I very much hope we can encourage more entries into these classes next year.

Bob Maurer (Reigate) our Surrey Honey Show Chairman presented the prizes and cups. Tim Lovett ex-BBKA president also joined us for the day.

Many of the public visiting the vineyard came into the show to admire the exhibits and silverware, meet the bees and find out more about nectar rich plants, threats to the bees and other pollinators and buy the sunshine in a jar (or comb) honey.

Special thanks for all volunteers who helped during the day, very much appreciated.

A couple of our committee have moved on due to family commitments and other beekeeping duties; very special thanks goes to Daphne Thomas who ran the show bench so well and Elizabeth Knight who oversaw the straw draw plus Michael Main who has served on the committee for many years, and for some time as chief steward, is now helping with the Yellow Legged Hornet Surrey committee.

Looking forward to seeing more entries next year.

**Mike Axford**

Surrey Show Chief Steward