

Surrey Honey Show 2025

### **Double Blue Ribbon Event**

We had an amazing 228 entries, even more than the world honey show at this year's Apimondia in Copenhagen. A big thank you to all our Surrey associations.

We had over a thousand people visit the show and marvel at the bees and all the different types of honey. We were lucky to have the observation hive (Kingston) and Vince Gallo's live tree trunk beehive just outside the main entrance, under our new multi association gazebo.

### **Next year can be even bigger and better – at Denbies Wine Estate Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2026.**

The overall winning Association was Reigate, with 190 points claiming the Vincent Challenge Cup, followed by Kingston with 94 points and Guildford with 45.

Next year we must put more pressure on Reigate!

Best in show was Jacqueline Tolley (Guildford) with her fantastic display in the Composite class (class 15) followed by Barry Wood (Kingston) and Angela Isaac (Reigate). Jacqueline also won the Colman cup for her two containers of cut comb (class 5)

Bob Barnes won the Golder Memorial Trophy for his one jar of honey in the novice class (class 19) and Max Bavington again leading the juniors with his win of the new Hederow Cup for photography. A special mention to Clive Mence (Kingston) who bought his first WBC for 35/- in 1953, since he moved to Surrey in 1968 has entered every year and won at least one of the cups, this year was no exception winning the Ken Reed Memorial cup, his mentor 57 years ago, for a single piece of beeswax (class 7).

Derek Jones ex chair of Kingston presented the prizes and cups, with his wife Anne running the honey sales stall, which took over £1000, a big thank you to both. And as always, a special thanks from me to Simon Ford, Keith McMahon, Richard Bradfield and the rest of the committee for their patience and hard work, plus all the volunteers: we couldn't put on such a show without you, very much appreciated.

Looking forward to seeing even more entries next year – Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2026.

Thank you.

**Mike Axford**

Surrey Honey Show, Chief Steward