

The **KENT COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY** presents

THE KENT COUNTY SHOW

3, 4 & 5 July 2026



DISCOVER YOUR KENT

BEES SCHEDULE

PATRON:

HRH The Duke of Kent, KG

PRESIDENT:

Mrs Roz Day

CHAIRMAN:

Mr Matthew Cullen

OFFICIAL GARDEN LIFE BEE SCHEDULE
OF THE 95TH KENT COUNTY SHOW

FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY

3rd, 4th and 5th JULY 2026

ENTRIES CLOSE

Bees – 19th June 2026

KENT BEES AND HONEY SHOW

Organised by the Kent Beekeepers' Associations Incorporating Dover, Kent, Laddingford, Medway and Thanet Beekeepers' Associations.

Judge: Mrs Bridget Knutson

Honey Show Secretary: Miss Sonia Belsey

Contact: chair@medwaybka.co.uk / 07540 790041

1 Commonwealth Close, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 4UB

All entries must be made on the official Showing Scene website no later than 19th June 2026 via [Showing Scene- www.showingscene.com](http://www.showingscene.com), alternatively, contact Miss Phoebe Pickett via post, email or over the phone.

Contact: phoebe@kcas.org.uk / 01622 633067

Kent Showground, Detling, Maidstone ME14 3JF

CAN YOU HELP AS A STEWARD AT THE SHOW?

If so, please contact Hilde Koets on 07766 63315,

koets@btconnect.com or Oak Lane, Minster-on-Sea, Kent ME12 3QN

The Society would like to thank Thornes Beekeeping Equipment, Kent Laddingford and Medway Beekeepers Associations and Freeman and Harding for generously supporting classes.

KENT BEES AND HONEY SHOW RULES

1. All exhibitors must be members of Dover, Kent, Laddingford, Medway or Thanet BKAs. Junior Classes are open to young beekeepers up to the age of 18, whose parents or themselves are members of Dover, Kent, Laddingford, Medway or Thanet BKA.
2. Honey and wax must be the produce of the exhibitor's own bees.
3. Entry forms with S.A.E. must reach the Show Secretary or to be entered on Showing Scene by **Friday 19th June 2026**.
4. Exhibitors may make more than one entry in any class, but will only receive one award per class. Awards for classes 1 to 17 will be counted for points for Challenge Trophies.
5. Honey must be exhibited in clear 454g (1 lb) squat jars of British Standard Pattern with standard lacquered or plastic screw tops (gold or white).
6. Labels will be supplied and must be affixed to exhibits as follows:
 - a) Jars and Mead Bottles: 15mm (1/2 in) from the bottom.
 - b) Cut Comb: one label on the lid and the other on the side of the container.
 - c) Sections: one label on the front of the commercial box and the other on the top of the section.
 - d) Frame: one label on the top bar and the other on the glass of the case.
 - e) Candles: one on each candle fixed near the base of the candle.
 - f) Blocks of Wax: a label on the top of the block and one on the container.
 - g) Photographs: there should be a title or caption. Photographs to have been taken by the exhibitor and mounted on plain card of any colour (160gsm grade), A4 size. Photographs to be labelled on the bottom left-hand corner of the mount.
 - h) Cakes: a label on the top of the cake and the other on the plastic bag.
 - i) Biscuits: a label on the plate and the other on the plastic bag.
- * (bags will be supplied at the show for points (i) and (h)).

7. Beeswax must be plainly moulded and not exhibited in boxes. All entries will be placed in a display case.
8. Mead to be shown in a clear punted bottle with little or no lettering or ornamentation containing approximately 750ml (27 fluid oz). Only cork stoppers with white plastic flanges to be used (supplied at the show).
9. Candles must be displayed upright in a suitable holder.
10. Exhibits will only be accepted at the Show from 2pm – 6pm on the day prior to the Show opening or delivered to the Show Secretary during the week. They will be staged by the appointed stewards. Judging starts promptly at 10.00am on Friday and exhibits may only be removed after 5.30pm on the last day of the Show.
11. All exhibits except those in the Gift Classes will remain the property of the exhibitor. All reasonable care will be taken with the exhibits but the Show Committee cannot be responsible for any loss or damage.
12. A Novice is any exhibitor, who has never won a First Prize at the Kent Honey Show.
13. Any appeals should be addressed to the Show Secretary by 4pm on 4th July 2026.

Any points not covered in the above rules will be referred to the rules applying to the National Honey Show. A copy of these rules will be available for scrutiny.



KENT BEES AND HONEY SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

Place Cards and Rosettes are awarded for First, Second, Third, VHC and HC winners in each class.

Points awarded: First – 6, Second – 5, Third – 4, VHC – 3, HC – 2, C – 1

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES, OPEN TO ALL BEEKEEPERS

OPEN CLASSES.

1. Two jars of Light Coloured Honey. Sponsored by Kent Beekeepers Association
2. Two jars of Medium Coloured Honey. Clive Watson Memorial Trophy. Sponsored by Thornes
3. Two jars of Dark Coloured Honey. Sponsored by Kent Beekeepers Association
4. Two jars of Naturally Crystallised or Soft Set Honey. Sponsored by Kent Beekeepers Association
5. Six jars of one type of Honey (Light, Medium, Dark, Crystallised or Soft Set), labelled as offered for retail sale including country of origin and best before date (Rule 5 does not apply. If used, tamperproof labels will be broken for judging). Sponsored by Kent Beekeepers Association
6. One Frame of Honey, any size, suitable for extracting. Must be on wired foundation.
7. Two Sections or Two Cut Comb Containers.
8. One bottle of Dry Mead (Rules 6 & 8 apply). Mead Cup.
9. One bottle of Sweet Mead (Rules 6 & 8 apply). Mead Cup.
10. Three Beeswax Candles. Candles need not necessarily be the same size or style. The display will be judged on its artistic merits. They will not be lit. (Rule 7 does not apply).



11. Three Plain Beeswax Candles, not patterned, up to and including 38mm. (1.5in) in diameter. One candle will be lit by the judge. **Sponsored by Kent Beekeepers Association**
12. Two Beeswax Models, moulded, matching in all respects.
13. One cake of Beeswax, weight between 200–255g (7–9oz) and not less than 20mm ($\frac{3}{4}$ in) thick. **Sponsored by Kent Beekeepers Association**
14. Six 28g (1oz) Wax blocks.
15. Exhibition Class. A display of Honey and Hive Products. – 4 items to be selected from the following list: 2 jars of Clear Honey of any colour, 2 jars of Naturally Crystallised Honey or Soft Set Honey, one container of cut comb (200–255g), one section (approx. 454g), Frame for Extraction, one cake of Beeswax (as per entry to class 12), 3 candles (as in classes 9 and 10), 2 beeswax models, bottle of Mead, Honey Cake, Polish or Furniture Cream and Cosmetics. Displayed flat on the bench in an area not to exceed 500mm X 500mm and 350mm high. **Subscribers Cup. Sponsored by Laddingford Bee Keepers Association**
16. Mounted Coloured Print Photograph with Title relating to Bees or Beekeeping, not a close-up. Picture can be of any size, but must be taken by the exhibitor and mounted on plain card any colour (160gsm), A4 size. Digital images are permitted. **Sponsored by Medway Bee Keepers Association**
17. Mounted Coloured Print close-up Photograph with title of a bee related activity. Picture can be of any size, but must be taken by the exhibitor and mounted on plain card any colour (160gsm), A4 size. Digital images are permitted. **Sponsored by Medway Bee Keepers Association**



NOVICE CLASSES

Open to Beekeepers who have never won a First Prize Card in the Kent Honey Show.

18. Clear Honey. Two jars of Honey, any one colour.

19. Naturally Crystallised or Soft Set Honey. Two jars of Honey.

JUNIOR CLASSES.

Open to any Junior member of any of the five Beekeeping Associations in Kent or to the children of a member of the Beekeeping Associations in Kent up to the age of 18.

20. Honey. One jar of clear honey of any colour.

21. Any Artistic, Decorative or Instructive Exhibit, relating to Bees and Beekeeping. Open to young people who are at junior school during 2026. A written explanation to be included. Dimensions to be not larger than 84 x 60 cm (A2 size). Age to be stated on the entry form.

22. Any Artistic, Decorative or Instructive Exhibit, relating to Bees and Beekeeping. May include photographs. Open to young people who are at secondary school during 2026. A written explanation to be included. Dimensions to be not larger than 84 x 60 cm (A2 size). Age to be stated on the entry form.

SCHOOLS CLASSES

For both Class 23 and 24, the size of the exhibit to be not larger than 84 x 60 cm (A2 size). Written explanation can be included with pictures and photographs. Exhibits will be judged for the correct scientific content and for general interest to the general public.

23. Honey. One jar of clear honey of any colour.

24. An artistic, Decorative or Instructive Exhibit relating to Honeybees and Beekeeping. Open to Junior School Classes as either a class project or an entry from a group of pupils at the same school.

25. An artistic, Decorative or Instructive Exhibit relating to Honeybees and Beekeeping. Open to Secondary School Classes as either a class project or an entry from a group of pupils at the same school.

HONEY GIFT CLASSES

26. Clear Honey. One jar of clear honey of any colour.

27. Naturally Crystallised or Soft Set Honey. One jar of either.

For classes 25 and 26. Please supply one of your own labels in an envelope with your entry number, labels will be applied when the honey is sold.

28. Honey Fruit Cake. Exhibits must be made to the recipe below. Cakes will be donated to catering after judging.

Recipe:

- 200g self-raising flour
- 175g honey
- 175g sultanas
- 110g glace cherries(halved)
- 110g butter
- 2 medium eggs
- milk as needed
- pinch of salt

Pre-heat the oven to 180°C/ gas mark

4. Cream butter and honey together.

Beat eggs well and add them alternately with sifted flour and salt, then fold in sultanas and cherries. A little milk may be added if necessary. Bake in a circular tin 6 ½ – 7 ½ " in diameter for approximately 1 ½ hours. Timing is a guide only; appliances may vary.

29. Honey Biscuits. A plate of six biscuits made to the exhibitor's own recipe.

The recipe to be displayed with the biscuits.

BRANCH OR ASSOCIATION APIARY CLASS

30. Two jars of honey of any one colour. Sponsored by Freeman & Harding

Membership of our show is a great way to show your support. Memberships comes with a variety of benefits. Tickets to our other society events such as Heritagae Transport Show and Biddenden Tractorfest. You also be able to access the members lounge over the Kent County Show weekend for complimentary refreshments.



SPECIAL AWARDS

The Agricultural Society's Trophy

Exhibitor with the highest points in
classes 1 – 17

Clive Watson Memorial Trophy

Winner of Class 2 for Medium
Coloured Honey

Mead Cup

Best exhibit of Mead
Overall Winner of classes 8 and 9

Reginald Tower Rose Bowl

Best exhibit of candles
Overall winner of classes 10 and 11



Subscribers Cup

Exhibition Class (Class 15)

Novice Cup

Overall Winner of classes 18 & 19

Geoffrey Dixon Trophy

Branch or Association Apiary Class

Margaret Calder Plate

Best Exhibit in the Cookery Classes

Central Division Cup

Branch or Association Winning the
Most points in Classes 1 – 17.



Become a sponsor

Class sponsorship starts from £100 + vat. Sponsors can be individuals or companies and we can offer you sponsors packages to acknowledge your support.