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BEES *for* DEVELOPMENT TRUST



BfD Safari in Tobago - February 2009

These intrepid explorers travelled to the sister islands of Trinidad and Tobago to look at and discover the methods of beekeeping there and also to enjoy the beautiful surroundings. They spent some time with beekeepers in Trinidad before taking the short flight over to Tobago where they looked at top bar hives and also stingless bees. They spent evenings listening to the local pan bands compete in music festivals and enjoyed the catch of the day and exotic fruits at a selection of fine restaurants and eateries. The photograph shows L-R, David, Ruth, Dot (BfD) and the two Chris's enjoying the sunshine with their host, Gladstone Solomon (in centre).

Pam Gregory - BfD's African Beekeeping Information Coordinator

As announced in the last *Newsletter*, money from the Welsh Assembly's 'Wales for Africa' fund is enabling significant improvements to be made to the service that beekeepers in Africa receive. Pam Gregory is now working hard, writing pages of beekeeping notes on information relevant to all beekeepers in Africa. She has had many years experience of going to Africa and helping with beekeeping projects there. During the next year she will be developing a dedicated African



Beekeeping Information Portal. She is answering many enquiries and has written a manual on managing bees in Africa.



UBKA raise money

David McCartney (right) Secretary of Killinchy BKA presents a cheque for

£840.00 to Robert McCreary, Treasurer of Ulster BKA for the benefit of BfD Trust. This was the offering from their Annual Harvest Service. Dr Mervyn Eddie, the Chairman of UBKA is in the middle of the photograph. The Ulster BKA is the umbrella organisation to which nine local Northern Irish associations are affiliated, they are: Mid Antrim, Randalstown, East Antrim, Roe Valley, Fermanagh, Mid Ulster, Belfast, Dromore and Killinchy.

Els Vermeulen is taking part in a cycle event from London to Edinburgh and back (LEL) to raise money for BfD Trust. The total distance he will cycle is 1,400 km and the cycling will take place between 26th and 31st of July 2009. Els is a passionate beekeeper and has seen the benefit of BfD in action as seen from this photo where he is in Dharmapuri in India. His ambition is to complete the cycle ride within a time limit of 116 hours. So far he has raised half of his target amount and he has a website where sponsors can support his challenge. His site is www.justgiving.com/swarm_catcher_els where you can read his personal message and pledge a donation. The justgiving site adds gift aid and a supplement so that the money given will go further in support of the vital work continuing to be done by the Bees *for* Development Trust.



Look out for the Bees *for* Development stand at the BBKA **Spring Convention** on 18th April at Stoneleigh. We will also have a stand to recruit many more members at **ApiExpo** which is part of **APIMONDIA** 41st Congress in Montpellier, France, 15-20th September 2009.



BEEES for DEVELOPMENT TRUST



Grace Pundyk in Tasmania

Grace has written a book called 'The Honey Spinner' about her travels in search of the amber nectar (honey not beer) around the world. This is being published in the USA and Germany but not yet in the UK. She is now back home in Tasmania and has just taken 18 kg of honey from two recent swarms that arrived and settled in hives in her back yard. She thinks that they came from the black bee reserve in the central highlands of Tasmania where Black bees still exist. There are still problems in that area with logging destroying the natural



habitat of many animals but it is 'protected', so hopefully the local black bee will continue to thrive.

Thank you to all our supporters

Innovative fundraising by groups and individuals makes so much possible. Please encourage your friends and colleagues to help. We use all financial contributions effectively to help alleviate poverty and preserve biodiversity, by means of bees and beekeeping.

Members of the Trust receive a welcome pack, *BfD Journal*, invitations to BfD events, newsletters and 50 tamper evident seals when they sign up. If you are not already a member, then please join. Look at the website below for the different membership categories so that you can choose the amount of support you wish to give.

www.beesfordevelopment.org

National Honey Show Reception

This evening reception was a very successful event where many BfD Trust supporters and potential new members enjoyed the musical entertainment, when Ruth Burbidge played her recorder beautifully. They also enjoyed the refreshments and bee chat (see photograph below of Pam, Dinah, Claire and Terry), with the decibels ever increasing as the event proceeded.

Bill Turnbull was as usual, on form promoting the important work done by the BfD team. Many new members were recruited that evening encouraged by his lively talk. Also, there was an excellent power point

presentation showing recent projects that had been organised by Bees for Development.



Label Sales Continue

The tamper evident seals for honey jars and labels have proved to be a big success, thanks to everyone all over the world who use them. Buy on line at BfD or from E H Thorne (Beehives) Ltd or by post from Bees for Development Trust.



10p donated to Bees for Development Trust
Poverty relief through beekeeping
www.beesfordevelopment.org



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BfD bags ~ high quality jute bags only £5 each

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