

FÉILE BHITHÉAGSÚLACHTA & SEÓ MÉALA
PHÁIRC AN FHIONNUISCE
PHOENIX PARK
BIODIVERSITY FESTIVAL & HONEY SHOW

5^ú_{th}

Meán Fómhair
September 2026

Ionad Cuairteoirí Pháirc an Fhionnuisce
Phoenix Park Visitor Centre

www.phoenixpark.ie | T: 01 677 0095

✉ honeyshowsecretary@opw.ie

📷 @thephoenixparkopw 📘 @thephoenixpark

#phoenixparkbiofest

Bombus pratorum, An Bhumbóg Luath, Early Bumblebee, Fílagatlaíocht le Leif Ó Beagla



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Welcome



The Federation of Irish Beekeepers Associations (FIBKA) is again delighted to be associated with the Phoenix Park Biodiversity Festival & Honey Show. Since its inception ten years ago, it has become one of the most important shows in the beekeeper's calendar. It is a wonderful opportunity for the general public to see close up the diversity of Irish produced honey and to interact with the practitioners of this ancient craft.

The products of the beehive are many, from Beeswax, Bee Pollen, Propolis, and Royal Jelly, many of which can be used to compliment conventional medicine in a practice known as Apitherapy. Beeswax was historically a very important component of liturgical candles because of its clean burning and pleasant aroma.

I wish to thank the Office of Public Works for their continued support to beekeeping.

John Donoghue

President FIBKA



The Office of Public Works is delighted to welcome you to the 10th Annual Phoenix Park Honey Show and Biodiversity Festival. Guests can explore our event programme to find educational workshops and talks tailored for schools and nature lovers. These sessions offer practical tips on bee-friendly gardening and beekeeping so you can help wildlife thrive in your own backyard.

This event highlights the Phoenix Park as a vital sanctuary for nature, where the thriving plant and animal life relies heavily on the work of bees. To safeguard this rich environment, our gardening team sustainably manages more than 25 hives across the grounds, helping wild flowers and habitats flourish. This bustling bee population does more than protect nature; it plays a critical role in our food system, as bees are essential for pollinating the crops that provide most of the world's food supply.

We want to wish the very best of luck to all of this year's competitors. Thank you for being a part of our festival and celebrating these amazing creatures with us!

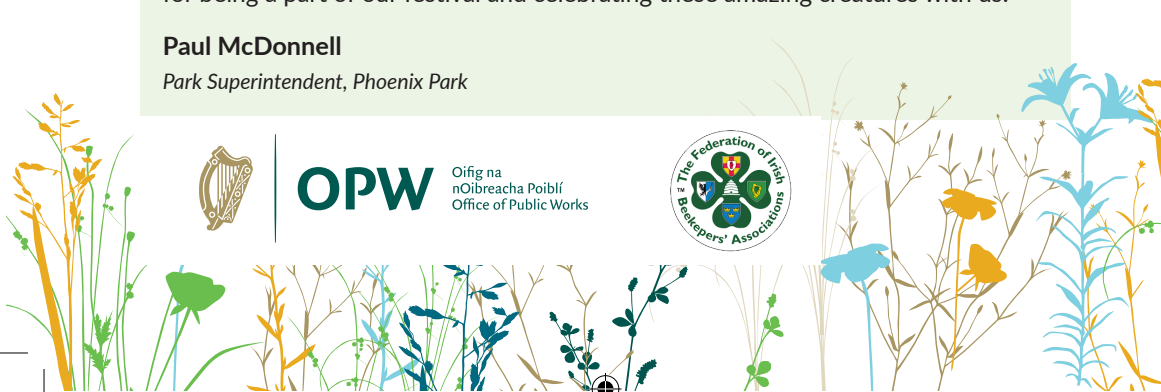
Paul McDonnell

Park Superintendent, Phoenix Park



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Judges



John Donoghue | Redmond Williams | Paul Boyle | Jim Fletcher

Phoenix Park Biodiversity Festival and Honey Show Secretary

Tel: 01 677 0095 | **Email:** honeyshowsecretary@opw.ie

Exhibition

8am -10am Staging of Exhibits, Saturday 5th September

10.15am Judging will commence

4pm Presentation of Prizes

Tours and Lectures

All happening throughout the day.



Please see www.phoenixpark.ie for more details

For the little ones

Family activities and much more throughout the day.

All welcome to this free event



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Rules & Regulations

1. Exhibits must be brought to The Phoenix Park Visitor Centre, Ashtown Demesne, Phoenix Park, Dublin D08 Y304 on Saturday 5th of September 2026 between 8.00am and 10.00am. Judging will commence at 10.15am.
2. An Exhibit must not be entered in more than one class.
3. An Exhibitor shall not be entitled to more than one prize in any one class.
4. The decision of the Judge(s) shall be final.
5. The Judge(s) reserve the right not to award all or any of the prizes in any class.
6. The decision of the show committee on any matter relating to the show (except judging) shall be final.
7. A label or any distinguishing mark may not be placed on any exhibit, except class Twelve. Numbers provided by the Show Secretary, shall be placed approx 12.5mm from the bottom of jars. For sections and beeswax, one number stuck to the exhibit, and the other to the container.
8. Wax may be exhibited polished or unpolished at the discretion of the exhibitor.
9. Online entries to honeyshowsecretary@opw.ie are preferable. The deadline for online submission is 5pm, Wednesday 2nd of September 2026. Postal entries shall be made on the form provided and forwarded to 'Secretary of the Phoenix Park Biodiversity Festival and Honey Show, OPW, Whitefields, Phoenix Park, Dublin D08 KDC4'. The deadline for receipt of postal applications is 5pm, Wednesday 2nd of September 2026. All other entries must be with the Show Secretary by 9am on Show Day.
10. Extracted honey must be exhibited in plain 340g or 454g jars with plain gold lacquered screw top or twist off lids. FIBKA lids permitted. **Rule 10 does not apply to Class 12.**
11. Mead must be entered in clear, colourless glass bottles without lettering, fluting or ornamentation. Flat or punted bottom bottles accepted. Bottles must be corked with flanged stoppers making them removable without the use of mechanical aid. Exhibitors in those classes must be over 18 years of age.
12. All honey and wax exhibited must be bona fide produce of the exhibitor's own bees and must be produced in Ireland.
13. The winner of a trophy may retain it until the following year, when it should be returned cleaned, polished and in good order and condition to the Show Secretary. All perpetual trophies shall remain the property of the OPW. Should any trophy become lost or damaged during the time in which it is in the possession of the winner, such a winner will pay the cost of repair.
14. Novice class. One 340g or 454g jar or one section. Open only to competitors who have not won a first prize in any class at any honey show.
15. Entries cannot be removed until after prize-giving ceremony.
16. No entry fee.



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Class

1. **Two Sections (Floral or Heather) (approx. 100mm²)** – 1st Gold Medal, 2nd Silver Medal, and 3rd Bronze Medal.
2. **Two Containers of Cut Comb (weight 195g-250g)** – 1st Gold Medal, 2nd Silver Medal, and 3rd Bronze Medal.
3. **One Frame of comb honey (suitable for extraction)** – 1st Gold Medal, 2nd Silver Medal, and 3rd Bronze Medal.
4. **One Frame of Ling Heather Honey** – 1st Gold Medal, 2nd Silver Medal, and 3rd Bronze Medal.
5. **Two Jars of Light Honey** – 1st Gold Medal, 2nd Silver Medal, and 3rd Bronze Medal.
6. **Two Jars of Medium Honey** – 1st Gold Medal, 2nd Silver Medal, and 3rd Bronze Medal.
7. **Two Jars of Dark Honey** – 1st Gold Medal, 2nd Silver Medal, and 3rd Bronze Medal.
8. **Two Jars of Chunk Honey** – 1st Gold Medal, 2nd Silver Medal, and 3rd Bronze Medal.
9. **Two Jars of Granulated Honey** – 1st Gold Medal, 2nd Silver Medal, and 3rd Bronze Medal.
10. **Two Jars of Creamed Honey** – 1st Gold Medal, 2nd Silver Medal, and 3rd Bronze Medal.
11. **Two Jars of Ling Heather Honey** – 1st Gold Medal, 2nd Silver Medal, and 3rd Bronze Medal.
12. **Twelve Jars of Honey.** All of the same type to be shown in jars offered for sale. All jars to be labelled with exhibitor's own labels. Besides the quality of honey, the attractiveness and sales appeal will be taken into consideration by the Judge.
NO STAND REQUIRED.
FIBKA Trophy – 1st Gold Medal, 2nd Silver Medal, and 3rd Bronze Medal.
13. **Five one oz blocks of beeswax** – 1st Gold Medal, 2nd Silver Medal, and 3rd Bronze Medal.
14. **Honey Cake.** Made with eight oz of S.R. flour, six oz Irish Honey, four oz butter or margarine, two eggs and a pinch of salt. Bake in a six and a half to seven and a half inch circular tin – 1st Gold Medal, 2nd Silver Medal, and 3rd Bronze Medal.
15. **Fruit Honey Cake.** Made with eight oz of S.R. flour, six oz Irish Honey, four oz butter or margarine, two eggs, six oz sultanas and a pinch of salt. Bake in a six and a half to seven and a half inch circular tin – 1st Gold Medal, 2nd Silver Medal, and 3rd Bronze Medal.



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Class

16. **Six Small biscuits (any recipe that includes honey)** – 1st Gold Medal, 2nd Silver Medal, and 3rd Bronze Medal.
17. **One bottle of Dry Mead** – 1st Gold Medal, 2nd Silver Medal, and 3rd Bronze Medal.
18. **One Bottle of Sweet Mead** – 1st Gold Medal, 2nd Silver Medal, and 3rd Bronze Medal.
19. **Three moulded beeswax candles** – 1st Gold Medal, 2nd Silver Medal, 3rd Bronze Medal.
20. **Three non-moulded beeswax candles** – 1st Gold Medal, 2nd Silver Medal, 3rd Bronze Medal.
21. **One Beeswax Model, dye permitted (Candles excluded)** – 1st Gold Medal, 2nd Silver Medal, and 3rd Bronze Medal.
22. **One photograph. Colour or Black and White** (Bee related, Printed and Mounted, A4 only) – 1st Gold Medal, 2nd Silver Medal, and 3rd Bronze Medal.
23. **Display Class. Honey, Beeswax or Mead (or both).** In addition, decorative material, coloured beeswax and any size or shape jar which is saleable may be used. Quantity of honey to be staged at least 5kg. Size not to exceed 915mm x 1220mm. Rule 11 does not apply – 1st Gold Medal, 2nd Silver Medal, and 3rd Bronze Medal.
24. **Novice Class.** National Biodiversity Centre Trophy – 1st Gold Medal, 2nd Silver Medal, 3rd Bronze Medal.



Junior Classes



25. **Any poster size A4, relating to bees/beekeeping/biodiversity**, confined to primary school students – 1st Gold Medal, 2nd Silver Medal, 3rd Bronze Medal.
26. **Any poster size A4, relating to bees/beekeeping/biodiversity**, confined to secondary school students – 1st Gold Medal, 2nd Silver Medal, 3rd Bronze Medal.

Special Trophy Awards

AWARD / CLASS	TITLE OF AWARD
Best Exhibit at the Show	OPW Phoenix Park Trophy
Best Comb Honey at the Show	Tree Council of Ireland Trophy
Best Run Honey at the Show	Gleeson Trophy
Class 12	FIBKA Trophy
Novice Class	National Biodiversity Data Centre Trophy



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The Phoenix Park

The Phoenix Park is an historic landscape of international importance and at 707ha (1752 acres) it is one of the largest enclosed landscapes in any European city. It was originally established as a Royal deer park in the 17th century. Being the largest urban park in Dublin, it is recognised as a green lung for the city and recent research highlights the major benefits to public health and wellbeing arising from the wealth of opportunities that a facility like the Phoenix Park has to offer.

The Park is a highly important site for biodiversity in Dublin City and is an extremely valuable resource for the people of Dublin and its visitors. It supports 50% of the mammal species found in Ireland and over 40% of all bird species and bees, as the expanses of semi-natural habitat offer cover, abundant food supplies and nesting sites for birds.

The Park has ongoing management measures that are sensitive to biodiversity. Such measures include wildlife sensitive grass management, allowing trees to die naturally within conservation zones and the minimal use of chemicals and fertilisers.

The overall objective is to secure and sustain the biodiversity value of the Phoenix Park into the future, to protect key habitats and species, enhance their status, recreate valuable wildlife habitats and introduce appropriate species to increase the biodiversity value of the park and its habitats.

Extract from – The Phoenix Park Conservation Management Plan

The Phoenix Park Visitor Centre

A lively and entertaining exhibition on the history and wildlife of the Phoenix Park. Here the visitor can enjoy an historical interpretation of the park from 3,500 B.C. to the present day. Tours of Áras an Uachtaráin, the Magazine Fort, Grangegorman Military Cemetery and Ashtown Castle are available, as are walks and talks on a weekly basis.

Open daily 9.30am - 6.00pm. Last admission at 5.00pm.

For further information:

Tel: 01 677 0095 Email: phoenixparkvisitorcentre@opw.ie www.phoenixpark.ie



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Class Number	Class	Number of Exhibits	Official Use Only
1	Two Sections		
2	Two Containers of Cut Comb		
3	One Frame		
4	One Frame Ling		
5	Two Jars Light		
6	Two Jars Medium		
7	Two Jars Dark		
8	Two Jars Chunk		
9	Two Jars Granulated		
10	Two Jars Creamed		
11	Two Jars Ling		
12	Twelve Jars Labelled		
13	Five Blocks of Beeswax		
			Official Use Only
14	Honey Cake - Plain		
15	Honey Cake - Fruit		
16	Six Biscuits		
17	One Bottle Dry Mead		
18	One Bottle Sweet Mead		
19	Three Moulded Beeswax Candles		
20	Three Non-moulded Beeswax Candles		
21	One Beeswax Model		
22	One Photograph		
23	Display Class		
24	Novice		
25	A4 Poster, primary school students		
26	A4 Poster, secondary school students		

DECLARATION

I have read and agreed to abide by the Rules and Regulations of the above show. In making these entries, I declare the above specimens to be bona fide, my own produce.

(BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE)

Name

Address

Tel

Email

NO ENTRY FEE

Entries to be submitted to the Secretary of the Phoenix Park Biodiversity Festival and Honey Show.

OPW, Whitefields, Phoenix Park, Dublin D08 KDC4. EMAIL: honeyshowsecretary@opw.ie | TEL: 01 677 0095