



Oxalic Acid Treatment ~ Michael Webb

As with last year there will be no charge for those members who have requested treatment and are to use the Division's Oxalic Acid order from C Wynne Jones. The cost of treating each hive is 50p and at the December 2105 and January 2016 monthly meetings a box will be available for those who wish to make a voluntary contribution to help defray the cost to the Division.

Reminder

As a result of other commitments next year I will not be in a position to continue as the Divisional Bulk Buy Co-ordinator. If there is a member interested and would like to take on this role for the benefit of members of the Division, then please contact me; email gsecebka@virginmedia.com or mobile 0771 249 0511.



Romford Division Contacts:

Secretary ~ Pat Allen

01708 220897 ~ pat.allen@btconnect.com

Chairman ~ Jim McNeill

01708 765898 ~ jimandliz44@aol.co.uk

Divisional Voting Member/Trustee ~ Pádraig Floyd

07894 419800 ~ psafloyd@yahoo.com

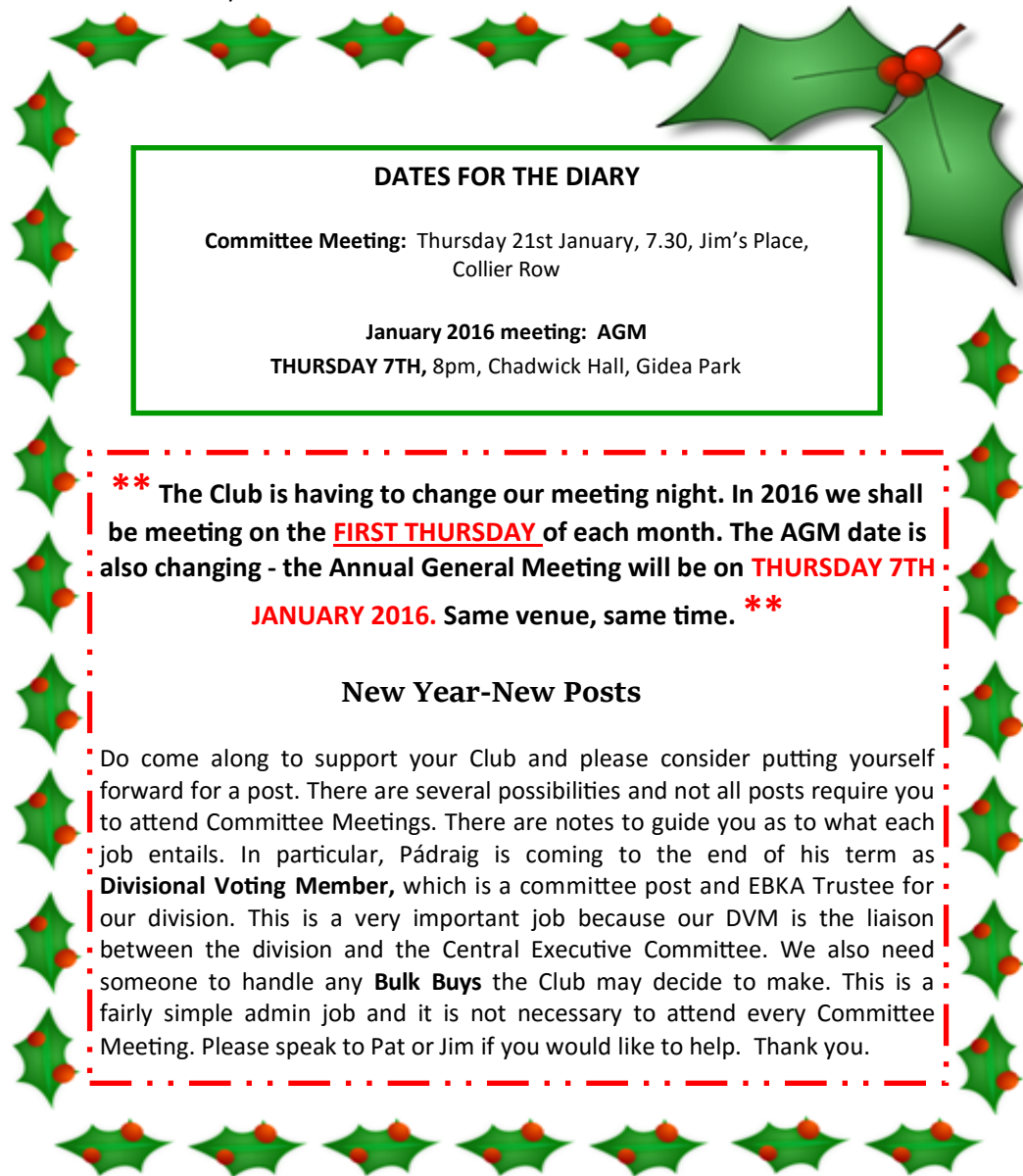
Website: www.ebka.org



December 2015

Romford Division

EBKA Charity Number: 1031419



DATES FOR THE DIARY

Committee Meeting: Thursday 21st January, 7.30, Jim's Place, Collier Row

January 2016 meeting: AGM
THURSDAY 7TH, 8pm, Chadwick Hall, Gidea Park

**** The Club is having to change our meeting night. In 2016 we shall be meeting on the **FIRST THURSDAY** of each month. The AGM date is also changing - the Annual General Meeting will be on **THURSDAY 7TH JANUARY 2016**. Same venue, same time. ****

New Year-New Posts

Do come along to support your Club and please consider putting yourself forward for a post. There are several possibilities and not all posts require you to attend Committee Meetings. There are notes to guide you as to what each job entails. In particular, Pádraig is coming to the end of his term as **Divisional Voting Member**, which is a committee post and EBKA Trustee for our division. This is a very important job because our DVM is the liaison between the division and the Central Executive Committee. We also need someone to handle any **Bulk Buys** the Club may decide to make. This is a fairly simple admin job and it is not necessary to attend every Committee Meeting. Please speak to Pat or Jim if you would like to help. Thank you.

MOCK HONEY SHOW - 2nd November 2015

With Helen Kingsford and Pat Allen

There were 19 jars of honey entered by members at the mock honey show. Some of the jars were so well sealed that it took quite an effort to open the jars.

There were three tables at the front of the hall for the different categories of honey e.g. light, medium and set.

We were given pieces of paper to write down our comments on the honey, taking into the consideration the smell, look and presentation as well as the taste. We were told to try the different honeys and mark on our paper your comments on several observations. To take into consideration the aroma, the general look of the honey, for example, is the honey clear, no bubbles or foreign bodies in the honey. Decide if the honey had a strong or mild flavour and whether you could detect which flowers the bees had visited from the taste, or even if it tasted burnt!

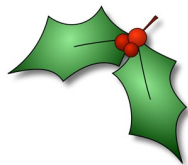
The winners of the three categories were:

Alan Sharp

Pat Allen

Dawn Doyland

Written by JILLY SPEAKMAN-BELL



Beekeeping notes for December ~ written by Pat Allen

If you intend to use oxalic acid to treat your bees against varroa, then around Christmas/New Year is the best time to do it – when there is least brood. If you are not going to use the acid on them, then I hope you have treated already with something efficient and you are **sure** the varroa population is low. Also check hives are upright and safe from woodpeckers and mice.

We have had very mild weather right through autumn and the bees have been collecting, but they might have used more stores than normal, so a small cake of fondant may be helpful over the cluster (over the hole in the crownboard if you like). If you find they have taken it, then they need stores. They only take fondant if they need it.

Get planning for 2016!

Conference 2016

We shall be getting a small **Conference Committee** together in the new year and we are looking for volunteers for this and for the many jobs that there are involved with organising a conference. Some members have volunteered already, but we need more people, not necessarily to attend Conference Committee Meetings, but to be part of the team organising the event. Contact Jim McNeill or Pat Allen if you can help.

Also, we hope there will be lots of support from Romford Members by their attendance at the Conference – put the date in your diary **NOW! Saturday 5th November 2016**. Yes, we know it is Guy Fawkes Night, but the conference is during the day so you can come to the conference and then have your fireworks in the evening!



A Merry Christmas to all



Subscriptions

Subscriptions are due on 1st January 2016. You will receive a subscription form with your December papers. Please pay promptly, we have made it easy for you to pay, and the **good news** is that subscriptions remain at the same amount. Although BBKA capitation has risen, the CEC will be subsidising the increase, for the second year running.

Don't forget to indicate how you want to receive your papers – email only (free); *or* collect at meetings (free); *or* pay £6 extra for the year to have them posted to you. (If you supply an email address then they will be emailed to you in any case.)

