



EBKA Charity Number: 1031419

June 2017

Romford Division

Essex Wildlife Trust Ingrebourne Valley Visitors Centre At Hornchurch Country Park

Bee Themed Day

Saturday 1st July 2017

Come and join us with the Romford Division of the Essex Beekeepers' Association between 10am—4.00pm

We will be displaying their craft and giving demonstrations about

Working with honey bees~~~events will include :-

Observation Hive and Virtual Hive

Beeswax Candle Rolling

Dress-up in Beekeepers Suit or Veil

Local Honey and Gifts to buy

Members may like to go along to support this event and enjoy a day all about Bees!

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Committee Meeting: Tuesday 11th July 7.30, Jim's Place, Collier Row

July meeting: Thursday 6th July.

This is an **outdoor meeting and will begin at 7pm** at the Teaching Apiary, Thames Chase, Pike Lane, Upminster, RM14 3NS.

Topic: There will be a demonstration or two, such as artificial swarm, making up a nuc, etc.

Please note: you can request a demonstration – but request in advance please.

Email Pat Allen with your request.

Eastbrookend Country Fair: Sunday 18th June, Eastbrookend Country Park, Dagenham

Helpers needed- and you can sell honey and other hive products if you want to. Contact Jim McNeill if you can help.

June Beekeeping Notes-written by Pat Allen

We are still in the swarming season so you need to continue with weekly inspections and be alert to swarming preparations. Remember if you take off a spring crop of honey, you need to replace the supers to give the bees plenty of space.

So far the honey in my hives does not seem to be oil seed rape and I do not know which flowers it has come from. This is good as it is not setting as OSR honey does. If you are in an area with OSR, then be alert to the fields going green and get the honey extracted quickly. Don't take all the stores though, colonies are large with lots of mouths to feed.

Hopefully the weather will continue warm now and virgin queens will be able to mate well. Give a virgin queen up to 28 days to start laying, but do not wait longer or you may end up with laying workers and a doomed colony. If you want a swarm to give you a new colony, let me know, but you must be prepared to collect it, with an experienced beekeeper if you have not done it before.

Romford Division Contacts:

Secretary ~ Pat Allen

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Trial Recipes for Honey Show/Using Varroa Treatments - 4th May 2017

Eleven members baked very fine recipes for us all to try to decide two new recipes for inclusion in the honey show this year. We were given a judging sheet with a numbered scale of 1 -10 (10 being the highest). We had to comment on the appearance, the strength of honey flavour in each cake (all cakes naturally had to include honey), the general flavour and any other relevant comments. The recipe for each cake was beside each entry. All the cakes entered were of a very high standard and it was difficult to differentiate between them. The winners were the Walnut, Date and Honey cake baked by Sue Musto, and the River Cottage cake baked by Lorna Pattle. Therefore, these two recipes will be included as statutory cake recipes for two categories this year.

It was an extremely enjoyable evening of cake tasting, each of us having the opportunity to try each cake, accompanied by our cups of tea or coffee.

The second part of the evening was a talk on various varroa treatments from Norman McDonald, Terry Watson, Paul Wiltshire and Pat Allen each explaining a different treatment. By JILLY SPEAKMAN-BELL



Paul Wiltshire led the presentation of varroa treatment products.
This is a summary of these and how/when they are used.



Auction of secondhand equipment: Vince Finan, a long-standing member has now given up beekeeping and wants to sell his equipment. We will be arranging another auction some time soon. If you are interested, please email Pat Allen for a list of the items that will be available.

Varroa Treatment Summary								
Treat-ment	Active Ingredient	When to use / Treat	Ambient Temperature restrictions	Duration of Treat-ment	Mode of Appli-cation	OK to Treat During Honey Flow?	Notes	Cost per Colony
Icing Sugar	Sugar	Anytime	None	Single Dose	Brush or "puff" over bees on frames.	Yes	Simple and effective mite control for light infestation during honey flow.	£0.02
Api-Bioxal	Oxalic Acid	Anytime on Broodless Colonies	None	Single Dose	Dissolve powder in sugar syrup and dribble between brood frames over bees. or Vaporisation	No	Usually applied in early January but can also be used on shook swarms or new swarms (ie broodless).	£1.00
Apiguard	Thymol	Early Spring or Autumn after harvest.	Works best in temperatures above 15°C.	4 Weeks	Peel back tray lid and place, gel side up on top of the brood frames (using EKE) - repeat after 2 weeks.	No	Close mesh floors during treatment. Is effective at lower temperatures but gel needs to be left in place for longer.	£4.50
MAQS	Formic Acid	Spring - Autumn	Daytime temperature highs 10°C– 29.5°C on day of application.	7 Days	Lay two gel strips across top bars of the brood frames.	Yes	Can be reapplied after 1 month if required. Avoid using in hot weather or on hives in direct sunlight. Ensure adequate ventilation in hive.	£6.50
Apistan	Fluvalinate (Pyrethroid)	Best used in late summer after the harvest (when brood is diminishing). In case of severe infestations can be used at any time of year.	None Bees need to be active.	6 - 8 Weeks	Insert two strips in the brood box (between frames) for a period of 6 - 8 weeks (2 brood cycles).	No	The strips should be inserted, spaced apart hanging on different frames fairly centrally in the brood nest where bees will walk over them.	£4.50