

NATIONAL HONEY SHOW RESULTS

CLASS

262	Two jars light honey	Garry Furnell	2nd
264	Two jars dark honey	Terry Watson	3rd
269	One jar liquid honey	Garry Furnell	2nd
4	Twelve jars honey	Jim McNeill	3rd
152	Two jars medium honey	" " "	HC
263	Two jars medium honey	" " "	HC
265	Three jars different honey	" " "	1st
269	One jar liquid honey	" " "	C
271	Three moulded candles	" " "	3rd
272	Three not moulded candles	" " "	1st
321	Two jars liquid honey	" " "	VHC

Unfortunately Jim was the only member to enter the show in his own name this year, which was very disappointing after such a good divisional show. Let's do better next year, you know you can.



Romford Division Contacts:

Secretary ~ Pat Allen

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Chairman ~ Jim McNeill

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EBKA Charity Number: 1031419

December 2017

Romford Division



DATES FOR THE DIARY

Committee Meeting: Thursday 18th January 2018, 7.30pm. Jim's Place, Collier Row

January meeting: Thursday 4th January 2018, 8pm. Annual General Meeting.

***** Call for nominations. *****

Venue: Chadwick Hall, Main Road, Gidea Park, RM2 5EL.

YOUR DIVISION NEEDS YOU!

As you are all probably aware, Pat Allen is standing down as secretary after 12 years of loyal service, making this post vacant. The Programme Secretary post is also vacant. Can you spare a few hours of your time to help run your division? Your division does so much for you, why not consider giving something back. Without these lovely people giving some of their time, there would be no club! After all, it is a great way to get involved, build your skills and meet new people!



December Beekeeping Notes— written by Pat Allen

There should be nothing much to do this month if you prepared your bees well in the early autumn. Just do regular checks that the hives are upright and not being attacked by woodpeckers or some other pest. Ensure there is good dry air under the hives and shelter them from strong winds.

If you believe your bees might be running short of stores then you can put a cake of fondant over the cluster, but this should not be necessary if you fed them properly earlier on.

Take the opportunity to read and learn, and of course, plan for next year.

BEES AND FARMING – Talk by Richard Martin.

Written by Jilly Speakman-Bell.

Richard explained that the Treaty of Rome details that the agricultural productivity should increase and resources should be used to the full extent, thus improving productivity and sustainable management of natural resources.

Farmers are working with beekeepers to reduce the amount of damage any activity of spraying may do to bees. The Bee Farmers' Association accepts that some farms use pesticides and issue to farmers a number of ways they can spray their crops to ensure less damage to bees. The farmer should be aware of where bee hives are and who the beekeeper is, advising them of when they will be spraying. The farmer will spray early evening, early morning or on a day when the weather is not suitable for bees to venture outside the hive, therefore causing minimum amount of distress to the bees.

The use of Neonicotinoid pesticide has on 9th November this year, been justified by the government as posing environmental risks to bees and pollinators. Some farmers are reporting a decrease in crop productivity as a result of the ban, whereas, other farmers report an increase. Therefore, it is still very much a controversial issue which has yet to be clarified.

Richard advises on crop rotation which enables the land to regenerate nutrients when different crops are planted each year. This will get the best from the soil and control the amount of insects and pests that may be attacking a particular crop. He also advised which seeds/crops are the best for the particular farmland.

Courses:

Beginners Course: The Beginners Course will run on Tuesday evenings from 10th April until 12th June, in Upminster. If you need a booking form then email Pat Allen or ask her at a meeting.

Intermediate/Refresher Sessions: If there is enough interest in a particular topic or manipulation, then Pat is willing to run a session on it. Please let her know what you are interested in, e.g. Bailey comb change, artificial swarm, use of nuclei.

Queen Rearing: Pat will be doing her queen rearing next year using the Cupkit method. If anyone wants to try this method out in parallel with Pat, then please let her know. (You will need to buy your own kit.)

ROMFORD DIVISION HONEY SHOW 2017. WINNERS LIST.

Congratulations to the following beekeepers who won a trophy at this years show.

Light honey-G. Furnell
Medium honey-A. Mander
Dark honey- T. Watson
Set honey-J. McNeill
Clear for sale-M. Speakman-Bell
Set for sale-J. McNeill
Three different honeys-J. McNeill
Gift-G. Furnell
Novice clear-D. Doyland
Clear honey, beekeeping less than 5 years-D. Doyland
Cut comb-G. Furnell
Dry Mead-P. Hewson
Sweet mead-F. Negri
Beeswax-N. Messenger
Pair of wax candles-G. Furnell
Fudge-A. Mander
Honey cake-S. Richardson
Honey loaf-J. McNeill
Bakery- A.Mander
Photograph-M. Speakman-Bell
Edith Stevens Trophy-Best Honey in Show-A. Mander
W.G Chant Trophy-Best Exhibit in Show-J. McNeill