

Refresher Sessions

Are you interested in a refresher session on any aspect of beekeeping? Such as Bailey comb change, shook swarm, varroa management, uses of nuc hives. If so, let Pat Allen know (email please), or put your name on the list at a meeting.

February Beekeeping Notes— written by Pat Allen

This month can be very cold and wet. If you think your bees may be running short of stores then you can give them some fondant, but don't open them up any more than that.

Remove mouseguards by the end of February as these tend to knock the vital pollen off the bees' legs.

Check the varroa drop by inserting a greased board below the mesh floor and leaving it for a week. Count the varroa and divide by the number of days the insert was in. If there are more than 5/day, then use a varroa treatment (e.g. one tray of Apiguard) at the end of February or early March.

Is your spare equipment ready? You'll need it soon.

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EBKA Charity Number: 1031419

February 2018

Romford Division

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Committee Meeting: Wednesday 7th March 2018, 7.30pm. Jim's Place, Collier Row

March meeting: Thursday 1st March 2018, 8pm.

Topic: "Swarm Control"

Speaker: Norman McDonald.

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

SUBS WERE DUE ON 1ST JANUARY 2018

This is a reminder that you need to renew your membership by **Friday 16th February** if you wish to remain a member of Romford Division. If your subscription has not been paid by then, you will be removed from the BBKA register, you and your bees will no longer be insured and you will no longer receive newsletters, etc. Please note that members with bees in Divisional Apiaries **must** be full members of the Division at all times. If you have lost your subscription form, email Pat Allen for another. Many thanks to those who have already renewed.

Bulk Buys

Bulk Buys should be ready for collection from 2nd week of March.

Annual General Meeting—4th January 2018

There was a rather disappointing turn-out for the AGM – about 30 people came. Jim chaired the meeting very ably and the Officers' reports were approved by the meeting. Unfortunately, with the AGM being very early in the year, there had not been time for our Treasurer to get the 2017 accounts examined and the unexamined accounts were tabled for the members present. The Treasurer said that the figures are very unlikely to change as the accounts were in balance and matched the bank statements. Examined accounts would be presented to the February meeting.

Then we came to the elections. There were two posts vacant, Secretary and Programme Secretary. Jim explained what was involved in each job but there were no volunteers to take up these posts, so they had to be left vacant. This is a very serious situation because the Division cannot run without a Secretary. All the other posts were re-elected with the same people as before.

Jim called for members to give the Committee ideas as to what topics and speakers they would like to hear. He reminded the meeting that the AGM minutes and examined accounts will be presented to the February meeting for approval. The meeting closed at 9.00pm.

Subsequently to the AGM, Dawn Doyland has volunteered for the post of Programme Secretary – thank you, Dawn.

Maybe one of our members who is benefitting by the bulk buy deals that the Division obtains might consider offering a few hours of his/her time a week in return to shadow the Secretary post for this year with a view to taking over the post in 2019?

Pat Allen

Programme 2018

Saturday 23rd June: Would you be interested in a group visit to **The Hive** at Kew Gardens this June?

Group tickets are cheaper than individual ones, cheaper still if booked online.



Everyone who has been says this is a wonderful experience, so why not join us?



Tickets £12.75 for 60+,
£14.45 adults,
£4 children.

You can register interest by emailing Dawn (dawn_doyland@hotmail.com) or put your name on the list at a meeting.