

Essex Show Entries:

Now is your chance to show the county what fantastic honey & cake Romford members can produce. Save that nice frame of honey with nice white cappings, if you freeze it, it will stay extractable for the show, sort out the different coloured honeys, i.e. Light, Medium or Dark. Have a good look at the show schedule, read the rules and get your entry form in on time. Send an SAE to get your labels so you have time to put them on without having to rush.

If you can't get to Orsett on the Friday just get it to me and I will take it for you. The exhibits at our own show are so good—we just need a few members entering the county show,! Go in for as many classes as you can, the points all count for Romford.

Susan and Tony Andrews have already started planning the garden on our behalf. So please try to put an entry in; it's not too early to start now. There are over 50 classes so you should be able to find something you can enter. The more classes you enter the more chance of winning so get in touch with me Jim McNeill 01708 765898 if you have any problems.

Jim McNeill



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EBKA Charity Number: 1031419

August 2018

Romford Division

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Committee Meeting: Wednesday 12th September 2018, 7.30pm.
Jim's Place, Collier Row

September meeting: Thursday 6th September 2018, 8pm, Chadwick Hall

Topic: "The Good, The Bad, and The Absolutely Useless!"

Members should bring along their tools and gadgets, good and bad buys, or things they have made themselves, and tell us about them.

Venue: ****Note that this is indoors in Chadwick Hall and starting at 8pm.****

Romford Honey Show:

Saturday 20th October

At the Ascension Church Hall, Collier Row. RM5 2BA

With the very hot weather of late it appears the bees are loving it and 2018 will be a bumper crop for honey.

This is a great opportunity for all members to enter the division honey show in October.

So why not give it a try this year. It's all good experience and you may even win a cup or two!

Schedules will appear in next month's newsletter and there is something for everyone.

Angela Mander

July Meeting:

The July meeting was held at the Teaching Apiary at Thames Chase. Through no fault of ours, information given in *The Essex Beekeeper* magazine was wrong, and despite the newsletter email message giving the correct venue and time, I understand that some members went to our indoor venue at Gidea Park. Apologies to these people for their wasted journey, but all I can say is - "Read the newsletter and your email messages!".

The weather was good to us and the bees behaved beautifully. Two demonstrations were given – a Bailey Comb Change, and a Shook Swarm. The audience was not large, but it was good to see some very young beekeepers there. After the demos there were many questions and hopefully everyone learned something that can help their bees next season. Changing the combs really perks the bees up and doing a Bailey Comb Change every two or three years on each colony is recommended to reduce the build-up of pathogens in the comb.

Pat Allen

Bulk Buys :

I will be making a purchase of MAQS as an Autumn treatment against varroa, (expiry date March 2019). The cost per hive should be a maximum of £5.00.

If you wish to place an order please email me with number of hives you wish to treat no later than 10th August.

Payment to be made to myself, not the division. I will give details once I have placed the order.

Collection- my home or at September meeting.

Lorna Pattle

lorna.pattle@outlook.com

August Beekeeping Notes:

The season is coming to an end now and August is a good month to do a dedicated disease inspection. You will need to shake all the bees off each frame as you go through so that you can see every cell. Read your books to remind yourself of the procedure. If anything looks wrong, get a second opinion or contact the Bee Inspector (details in *The Essex Beekeeper* magazine).

Assess your colonies and decide which ones you want to overwinter. It is not worth feeding and treating a colony that is unlikely to survive the winter, it is better to unite it to a strong one. You can make up the loss next spring when the colony expands.

Any honey you want for yourself should be taken off by the end of the month, but don't take it all. Give the bees back the extracted supers for a week (over the crownboard) and then remove them and store them for winter.



Then it is time to feed and to treat against varroa. This autumn the bulk buy will be of MAQS and if you want to use this, then get your order in straight away (see note elsewhere in the newsletter). You can feed and treat this month or in September, but do not leave it any later. Remember that the floor insert must be in while treating and feeding.

Pat Allen