

Refresher Sessions:

Managing Nucs: As there has been almost no interest shown in the 'Managing Nucs' session, I shall not be running this. (Apologies to the one person who did indicate an interest.)

Honey Extraction: This session will be held in late July, with date to be arranged, but only if there is enough interest (which is not the case so far).

Integrated Pest Management: If you are interested in the session, please contact Paul Wiltshire (paul.g.wiltshire@btinternet.com).

Pat Allen

Discount

We have negotiated a 10% discount off orders with BB Wear, plus free delivery, for members <https://www.bbwear.co.uk/>

To take advantage of this discount orders must be placed either on the phone, or by email. Not via the website.

BB Wear will then confirm with me that you are a paid up member of Romford Division EBKA and payment will be arranged afterwards.

Sue Richardson

BEE HEALTH DAY 20 JUNE

Book up now before it's too late! Learn about the Asian Hornet & all new treatments for varroa. See adverts in Essex Beekeeper or Essex web page. It's on your doorstep so you don't have to travel far.

Jim McNeill

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Websites:

www.ebka.org

romfordbeekeepers.wordpress.com



EBKA Charity Number: 1031419

June 2019

Romford Division

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Committee Meeting: Wednesday 10th July 2019, 7.30pm, Jim's Place, Collier Row

June meeting: Thursday 4th July 2019, 8pm

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

Topic: 'How to impress the Honey Judges'

June Beekeeping Notes

There is still a need to be vigilant about swarming this month, so inspections should continue on a weekly basis.

Honey should be ready now, so get this extracted as soon as possible and let the bees have the wet supers back. Colonies are reaching maximum population size now and they need the space. There may be a 'June gap' in the nectar flow, so watch the stores.

If you have a new queen as a result of your swarm control, be patient with her but don't give her longer than 28 days (from emergence) to start laying. If the queen is not mated and laying worker brood by then, she will be no good and you need to sort the situation out before she starts laying drones or you get laying workers.

Pat Allen

Volunteers Needed for

Eastbrookend Country Fair 23rd June and Family Bee Day 27th July

Both being held at Eastbrookend Country Park, The Chase, Dagenham, RM7 0SS

We are having a stall at both of these events and would like some volunteers to help. We will be selling honey products on at both events too. Set up time to be confirmed.

The Country Fair is quite a large event with marquees and family activities all through the day. The Family Bee Day is going to be based around the bee garden at The Chase, which is currently having a makeover.

If you would be interested in helping on either day, or if you have honey, candles etc to sell please let Jim McNeill know -email jimandliz44@aol.co.uk or phone 01708 765898.

BBKA Exams – Jane Ridler, Tom Keeper & Roger Honey – 2nd May 2019



Tom Keeper

Tom Keeper was the first speaker. He was a fireman, then became a fire protection consultant. He is a very busy person as a keen bird watcher; enjoys sailing and gardening as well as being a dedicated beekeeper.

He is a fan of exams and says you can learn so much from studying and taking exams. He explained the different stages of bee learning, the stepping stones to competency and the framework to beekeeping. He advised the basic assessment syllabus and the reading list is on the BBKA website if anyone is interested in taking their beekeeping further.

Jane Ridler Master Beekeeper spoke to the club about the importance of continually learning about beekeeping. Jane urged people to consider doing the basic assessment. Jane is an examiner and explained that the role is not to catch the student out but to encourage them to pass their exams and continue their beekeeping interests.



Jane Ridler

There are nine divisions in Essex proving beekeeping is on the increase.



Roger Honey

Roger Honey was the final speaker who did his basic course and gave us a very amusing talk about different episodes therein.

In May 2017 he had 120lbs honey and in June the same year took off another 120lbs!

JILLY SPEAKMAN-BELL

Photographs by Mick Speakman-Bell

Having O/A write-up:

Opening of the Storage Facility & Wax Day at Havering Out apiary, Saturday 27th April 2019

For those who do not know, the new storage facility at this apiary was enabled by a legacy left by Don Bond, who had been a long-standing member of Romford Division. He had been an active Committee Member and was our President in the early nineties. It had taken several years of communication and negotiation with LB Havering before we were granted permission for a container in the apiary.

On the day, sixteen Members attended, plus Don's daughter, Susan Bond, who had travelled down from Malvern, Worcestershire. The day was somewhat cool and damp, but no heavy rain.

Pat gave a short history of the site and work towards the facility, then Jim spoke a few words and introduced Susan. Susan said she was pleased to come along and that she was very happy with how we had used her father's legacy. She then cut the ribbon across the doorway of the storage facility and it was officially 'open'.

Jim and Terry had got the pots on early to melt the wax, so while the wax was just becoming ready we had tea and cakes. The lovely cakes had been kindly baked and brought along by Julie Mugglestone. Susan then left to drive back to Malvern and we got on with using the hot wax. A good number of dipped candles were made, more or less satisfactorily (!), but the weather proved too cool to make foundation.

All in all it was a good day. We should be able to hold many more events there now that we have secure storage for equipment and cover for people.

Pat Allen

The Grand Opening

Photograph by John Whittard

