



# Romford Division



## Dates for the Diary

**Committee Meeting:** Thursday 11th July 19:30 (Zoom)

**Next Division Meeting:** Thursday 4th July

**Topic:** Microscopy Evening

**Venue TBC:** Thames Chase, Pike Lane, Upminster, RM14 3NS

If you would like to have your bees tested for Nosema, please bring a sample of about 30 bees (freshly dead please!) along to the meeting

**Speaker:** Annette Friday

Please note that members will have to pay £2 for parking

**A swarm of bees that I collected in early April. Graeme Ellis**



### JUNE Beekeeping Notes

Swarming season! Be vigilant, weekly inspections are needed this month. The weather has not been the best for getting new queens mated, but I hope yours are finding some sunny periods so they can get out to meet those drones.

Keep ahead with the supers and don't take too much honey - remember there may be a 'June gap' in forage. Populations are high so they need a lot of food now.

**Pat Allen**

### Courses

**Beginners:** Last Tuesday's session in the apiary was very wet!!! But we managed to look at the two nucleus colonies under umbrella. All was well with them. The students get a week off for the bank holiday and we meet again on 4th June. We hope to have a couple of new queens laying by then.

#### Tasters:

Two Taster Sessions booked for Saturday 6th July and Sunday 14th July. Garry Furnell is the contact for enquiries and bookings.

**Pat Allen**

### Committee Matters

**Education Secretary Needed** - unfortunately Zak Bickhan has had to step down from this post due to work commitments. So we are again looking for someone to take up this role. This year's beginners' course is now underway, but next year we will need a volunteer. Anyone who is interested please contact Pat Allen who can give you information on what is involved.

#### Rotary Club Fete on the Green - Queens Theatre Saturday 13th July

We have been offered a stall at this event and although we have several volunteers, we do need a couple more to help. If you can help setting up or taking down, or would like to help for the afternoon, please let us know.

**Susan Richardson**

### Asian Hornet App, Mark Wood

Mark explained how to use the Asian Hornet App. He said it is best to take a photo before you start if possible. When you open the App it shows photos and info on the Hornet. If you are sure it is a Hornet then press record and give contact details, photo and where found, make sure details are correct as you can't change them. You will receive a phone call.

[Link to download for Apple Device](#)

[Link to download for Android devices](#)

Dawn Doyland



### **Essex Bat Group, Ella Gibbs**

Ella came to talk to us about bats and brought a couple of live bats with her. She told us that bats pollinate plants, help seed dispersal and also control pests. The Pipistrelle bat eats 3000 insects in one night.

They have only one baby a year which are called pups. They are kept in a nursery and learn to fly in a couple of months and are adults at one year. They can live to be about 30 years old.

Bats use echo-location to enable them to navigate and find food in the dark. They emit high frequency sound pulses and listen to the echo. Different species have different sounds. Ella brought some recordings for us to hear.

They hibernate from October/November until Spring.

All British bats are protected, and it is illegal to disturb them or their sites. There are 18 different species in the UK and 10 in Essex. They live in buildings, under roof tiles, in roof voids, in Churches, under viaducts and in trees. They tuck themselves into crevices. They fly about 40km an hour and often fly low over water to catch insects. They are even found on oil rigs.

The Essex Bat Group rescue and care for injured bats and keep them if they are not too badly injured. They are fed on live mealworms until they begin to catch insects at around 6 weeks old.

The Bat Group put up bat boxes for single or many bats to live together. Hundreds of bats may live together. The Group surveys the local area and woodland for bat roosts. They raise awareness, educate and do bat walks. Data all contributes to national and international surveys.

### ***Dawn Doyland***



**Ted Hooper Lecture 2024: The Truth about Honey**

Saturday 22 June, 12.30 for lunch; Lecture commences at 2 pm.

Speaker: Lynne Ingram, Chair of the Honey Authenticity Network and Master Beekeeper (Somerset BKA)

Venue: Margaretting Village Hall, Wantz Road, Chelmsford, CM4 0EP

There is no charge for the event. A light lunch will be available before the talk. Booking is available via this Eventbrite link: [Ted Hooper Lecture Tickets](#)

**Please register/book your place to allow us to gauge numbers attending, particularly for lunch.**

**Susan Richardson**

**Romford Honey Show 2024**

SAVE THE DATE! This years honey show will be on SATURDAY 19th OCTOBER. Plenty of time to plan and prepare your exhibits. And don't forget the evening supper.

**Angela Mander**

**Romford Division Contacts:**

**Secretary: Sue Richardson**

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**Chair: Julie Mugglestone**

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**Divisional Voting Member/Trustee: Roger Honey**

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**Membership Secretary: Pat Allen**

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**Taster Bookings: Garry Furnell**

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**Education Secretary: Vacancy**

**Websites:**

<https://ebka.org>

<https://romfordbeekeepers.org>