



Essex Beekeepers' Association

Romford Division

CEC Report January 2019

Divisional Meetings

On the 6th December Romford Division held its Christmas Party. Four tables of members came to enjoy the Christmas festivities. We had a varied and sumptuous buffet. Plenty for second or even third helpings. The trophies from the honey show were handed out to the respective winners & we held a raffle of brightly wrapped gifts with lots of prizes. A good time was had by all who attended.

The Division held its AGM on the 3rd January. The meeting was well attended although there were still very few “new faces” willing to get involved in the various roles of the Division. Most posts were retained by the incumbents although Sue Richardson did kindly volunteer to take on the role of Division secretary, a post which has been vacant for all of 2018. Pat Allen was relieved to finally have someone to pass on this vital role to. The Division accounts were presented but were at this point unexamined. Next AGM to be held on the 6th February 2020.

Upcoming Events

Committee Meeting: Wednesday 16th January.

Division Meeting: Thursday 7th February 2019 - Bee Diseases and Exotic Pests, Speaker: David Rudland (East Surry Bees & ex-Bee Inspector).

Beginners Beekeeping Course: Starting 16th April.

Beekeeping Taster Session: August TBA.

Intermediate / Refresher Sessions: Summer 2019.

Finances

2018 finances were presented at the AGM, as mentioned above. Although the accounts this year show a deficit, (£4,038) due to the cost of installing a new storage facility at one of the Apiaries, the Division remains in a healthy financial position. The unexamined surplus as at 31st December 2018 stands at £17,912.55

Membership

Membership summary 2018:

Note that these will be revised once the current membership renewal process has been finalised.

Registered Members 101

Partner Members 16

Associate Members 3



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Total membership 120

Administrative Issues

None reported.

Questions for the CEC

None

Divisional Apiaries

No updates as our last committee meeting was cancelled to allow us to attend the presentation on eReturn2 on the 6th November.

BT London Road - During the early part of 2018 the weather was fine and the bees were building up nicely. This was followed by the 'Beast from the East', this knocked the bees back, and when the bees finally recovered, they were subjected to drought conditions!

Havering - The new storage container is now in place. When the ground was levelled a nice area was cleared of brambles, however they are starting to come back through the fence again and will need attending to.

Hornchurch - There are now eight beekeepers who have their hives at the Hornchurch Apiary, two have joined since last year. The apiary is well positioned for bees to forage in woodland and gardens.

The Chase - We have six members on site, with 20 hives overwintering. The total amount of honey extracted from this site was in the region of 550 lb.

Teaching Apiary - Five of the six National colonies came through winter 2017/2018 but unfortunately the small colony in the Top Bar Hive did not survive. The bees were used for the Beginners Course, Apiary Meetings in July and August, and a Taster Session in September. The total honey yield was 592 lbs, the sale of which will contribute handsomely to the club's funds. The apiary is still in need of resurfacing.

Swarms

Nothing to report.

Disease Reports

None