

The Essex Beekeeper

Issue 653

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Monthly Magazine of the
Essex Beekeepers' Association
www.ebka.org

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Thank you Epping Forest

By Clive de Bruyn, NDB

I was told by the Braintree secretary, Jan French, of a meeting organised on Sunday 24th March by Epping Forest division of EBKA. The day was to be spent considering the Asian Hornet Invasion (How to do, what and when). In spite of a busy schedule I felt it was a meeting I could not miss.

The venue, Copped Hall was quite thought-provoking itself. I had often seen the building from the M25 but Sunday was my first visit. My appetite was aroused enough to want a follow up just to visit the house and grounds.

I was pleased that I made the time to attend as I found the material presented by the four speakers listed below most useful. Each had something worthwhile to say in the context of their experience and background.

Andrew Durham A Cambridge beekeeper with knowledge of the history, life cycle and practical control measures used.

Bob Hogge A Jersey beekeeper with direct experience of the hornet.

Peter Davies A RBI from S.W. England who explained the current NBU strategy and experience as well as what could happen in the future

Stephen Auty A commercial beefarmer from Wiltshire who described the setting up of an Asian Hornet Action Team

The capacity audience were given a general outline of the Asian hornet's lifestyle. The difference between it and our own European hornet were stressed. Something the media has not appreciated. Many supposed pictures of the Asian hornet are in fact wrong.

Essex Beekeepers' Association presents a

Bee Health & Disease Recognition Day

at

The Millennium Centre

**The Chase, Dagenham Road,
Romford. RM7 0SS**

Thursday 20th June 2019

10 am - 4pm Reception 9.30



Suitable for Beekeepers of all levels of Experience

Come and meet your Eastern Regional Bee Inspector Keith Morgan and local Seasonal Bee Inspectors.

This relaxed & friendly day will include a mixture of presentations, Useful Tips & Hints with Discussions.

Apiary Hygiene - Varroa - Live Comb Recognition

Asian Hornet

Plus, a practical Session in the apiary observing how inspectors manipulate and check for disease.

IMPORTANT

Bring CLEAN Protective Beekeeping Clothing and a packed lunch. Tea & Coffee will be provided.

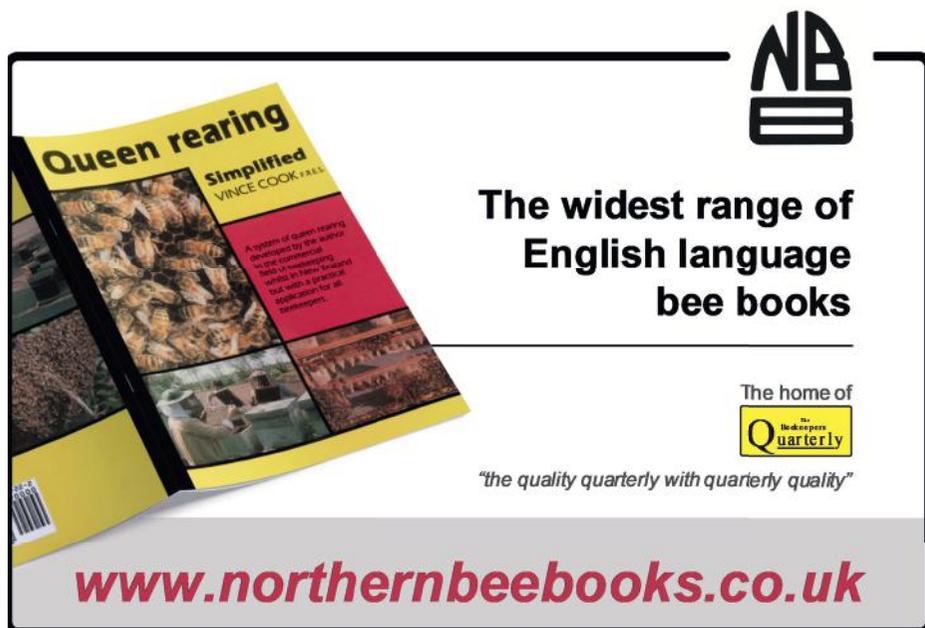
Pre Booking of Places is Essential as a limited number available

Contact; Jim McNeill on 01708 765898 answer phone, or

jimandliz44@aol.co.uk



What can the public do? First, learn to recognise the insect, which has distinctive yellow legs and one yellow abdominal band, but is darker and at 25mm smaller than our valuable European hornet, *Vespa crabro*. Secondly, add to mobile phones the Asian Hornet Watch app from nonnativespecies.org.uk which has identifying pictures of wasps, hornets and bees. Most importantly, we must adopt Corporal Jones' mantra and avoid invasion panic. 🐝



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Briefly

The Asian hornet that has invaded Europe is *Vespa velutina*. There are up to 13 sub species of *velutina*. The one we have is *V. velutina nigrithorax*. It is smaller than the European hornet *Vespa crabro* although it has the same wing length (greater agility). Its body is smaller, more black than yellow, with distinctive yellow legs.

A much better description is available through the Asian Hornet Watch. Free encapsulated mini-posters were given out at the end of the talk. More information is available on the internet (www.nonnativespecies.org).

Spread

From the first discovery in 2016 at Tetbury Gloucestershire there have been, so far, 13 confirmed sightings of the Asian hornets in England and 6 nests have been destroyed. Nine of these sightings

occurred last year; in Lancashire, Hull, Cornwall, Hampshire, Surrey and Kent (these are only the hornets that have been found).



Peter Davies holding a model of an Asian hornet, by Clive de Bruyn

From its original entry into France in 2004 *Vespa velutina* has since spread rapidly across Europe, facilitated by suitable climatic conditions and the ability of a single nest to disperse many mated queens over a large area. There is no reason to doubt that it can survive in England. How far north it will go depends on the weather. With climate change it may even move up into Scotland.

A single Asian hornet has been found in Scotland. It is assumed that it was a hitch hiker and not from a nest in Scotland.

Life cycle

V. velutina colonies are initiated by a single fertilised foundress who builds a nest and rapidly lays eggs. The queen is alone and vulnerable at this “queen colony stage”. From spring to summer hundreds of thousands of hornets are produced. . At the end of the summer, each successful nest produces multiple queens, which are mated and hibernate over winter There are a multitude of hiding places for queens which gives rise to many possible incursions into new territories through unconsciously human traffic.

Control

There was a lot of discussion from all the speakers about the various strategies that have been tried. Far more than I can describe in this short article. It remains to be seen which techniques work best. The pros and cons of various traps and baits were talked about. My opinion is that beekeepers in England should be experimenting with traps themselves. I am particularly keen not to victimize *Vespa crabro*.

Strategies

Different approaches were necessary at different times of the year. Several strategies used in France were shown. I will be trying these to see what side effects they would have on the honeybees. In an apiary the following tactics were advocated:

- Grow the grass up in front of hives to disrupt hornets
- Group hives together (single hives more vulnerable)
- Maintain strong colonies
- From August on reduce entrances.
- Kill the hornets at the hive with a badminton racket (I have seen this in China)

It was even suggested that hens should be trained as guards to catch the hornets hovering at the hive entrance. The most alarming suggestion was that the nests should be found and shot down (this does not work as the hornets merely rebuild).

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) is currently trying to prevent a nationwide Asian hornet invasion,

of Essex, Hertfordshire, London and Surrey, to hear Regional Bee Inspector Peter Davies present the story of the DEFRA National Bee Unit (NBU) and its work to find and destroy nests. Andrew Durham, from Cambridge BKA, painted a comprehensive picture of the French experience, British expectations and likely methods of control. Bob Hogge, past-President of Jersey BKA, told an impassioned tale of the island’s experience of the hornet, and Stephen Auty drove from Exeter to give us his view from the perspective of a professional beefarmer.

The Asian hornet (*Vespa velutina nigrithorax*) is a voracious predator of insects, and predominantly of the European honeybee, *Apis mellifera*. The main job of the honeybee is not honey production but pollination, and as it is a significant pollinator - which together produce one-third of the food we eat - it is clear that the decimation of honeybees will become a grave national issue.

The hornet arrived from Asia at the port of Bordeaux in 2004 in a consignment of pottery. One hibernating queen emerged and her progeny has spread throughout much of France and made inroads into northern Portugal. The UK has not been spared, and as the insect is established in Jersey, Brittany and close to the coast of Calais, it is unsurprising that the British mainland has been visited.

In 2018 the hornet was discovered in Somerset, Devon, Hampshire and Kent, and known nests were destroyed. If destruction was successful it will have prevented the hibernation of over-wintering queens, which emerge to construct Spring nests the size of tennis balls, often in sheds and urban buildings. Once established the hornets depart and build a second, much larger nest, often high in trees. Nests will be defended vigorously but the insect has an undeserved media reputation for danger.

The NBU is under-staffed and under-funded and only concerted public vigilance will be able to control incursions. Beekeeping associations are establishing Asian Hornet Action Teams to co-ordinate sightings. Epping Forest BKA has one such AHAT and its beekeepers are ready for combat.

A Conference to Combat Invasion

By Eric Beaumont

The permanent arrival to our country of the alien Asian hornet will have profound effect on British ecology and it was appropriate that the image of Corporal Jones opened a recent Copped Hall Conference, organised by Epping Forest Beekeepers' Association and entitled *Invasion! How to Do What, and When*.



A picture of Copped Hall taken by Peter Warne

Copped Hall was the site of an Elizabethan house and the first performance of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. A replacement grand Georgian mansion was extended in Victorian times, but in 1917 it caught fire, was abandoned and later asset-stripped by fly-by-nights and ne'er-do-wells. In 1995 it was saved when a Trust of local volunteers bought it from under the nose of the developer. It has been restored slowly according to funding and so reveals the scars of its existence and revival. It is a place of mystery and romance, has a working walled garden, underground vaulted kitchens, and is open to visitors.

Ninety-five beekeepers convened at Copped Hall from all parts

through eradication of individuals and nests. But if the species becomes established in the UK, it is likely there is very little that could be done about it.

The Asian hornet is very defensive and specially trained pest controllers wearing appropriate protection can currently destroy nests by injecting the chemical Fibrinol.

There are moves to restrict the use of this chemical because of its effect in the environment. The NBU may be able to acquire a special licence.

In France the fire brigade was involved in destroying nests until there were so many nests that it interfered with their firefighting. Who is going to take on this work in England?

Research is carrying on with female pheromone traps and other ploys. In the short term bees and beekeepers are in for an interesting time. I am encouraged to hear that beekeeping is still being carried on in France. Beekeepers there are some years ahead of us. They were unprepared. We need not be.

The general public and beekeepers should get up on the Asian hornet what it does and how we can curb it.

Is Essex going to form an Asian Hornet Action Team?

Thank you again Epping Forest for getting the ball rolling. 🐝

Flowers can 'hear' buzzing bees

By The Ipswich & East Suffolk Beekeepers' Association, via eBees

A bee buzzing near a plant causes the flower to increase the concentration of nectar it produces, ready for the bee when it lands on the flower. Experimenters have shown that playing a recording of a buzzing bee near an evening primrose plant causes it to produce sweeter nectar within three minutes. 🐝

Divisional meetings around the County

Meetings in May 2019

02 20:00-22:00 - Honey - From hive to jar - Mike Barke, Harlow Division
Harlow, CM19 5NU

02 20:00-22:00 - Tom Keeper and Roger Honey, Beekeeping Experiences, Romford Division
Chadwick Hall, Gidea Park, Romford

18 14:30-16:30 - Queen Rearing and Grafting Practical 1, Saffron Walden Division
Great Easton, Dunmow CM6 2HD

18 14:30-15:30 - Knowledge of forage, Epping Forest Division
Wansted, London, E11 2LN

20 19:30-21:00 - Monthly meeting, swarm control, Chelmsford Division
The Link Trinity Methodist Church, Chelmsford

20 UN World Bee Day



22 19:30-21:30 - 'Show Preparation' by Jim McNeill and Jean Smye, Southend Division
WI Hall, Bellingham Lane, Rayleigh, SS6 7ED

28 18:30-20:00 - Queen Rearing and Grafting Practical 2, Saffron Walden
Great Easton, Dunmow, CM6 2HD

Meetings in June 2019

01 14:30-16:30 - Queen rearing and grafting practical 3, Saffron Walden Division
Great Easton, Dunmow, CM6 2HD

05 18:30-20:00 - Shook swarm & Bailey comb change with Jane & Richard Ridler, Saffron Walden Division
Sewards End, Saffron Walden, CB10 2LF

06 20:00-22:00 - Bee stings by David McCorkindale, Harlow Division
Harlow, CM19 5NU

UNIVERSITY OF SUSSEX - LASI WORKSHOPS 2019

Are you interested in learning more about honey bees and other social insects?



If so, then the Laboratory of Apiculture and Social Insects (LASI), based at the University of Sussex is offering a number of workshops from July through to October this year. The first of these workshops looks at determining why honey bees visit certain flowers in preference to others; why the decline in some flowers has led to the decline in some species and what we can plant for their benefit. It is aimed at anyone who has an interest in helping all types of bees through ornamental and wild flowers.

Towards the end of the season in October, a further workshop looks at how to decode the 'waggle dance' discovered by Karl von Frisch for which he received the Nobel Prize in 1973.

Workshops are £20, are lead and taught by Professor Francis Ratnieks, Dr Karin Alton as well as other bee researchers from LASI. They are held at Sussex University, near to a Brighton railway in Falmer and run from 1130am to 3pm.



For a full list of workshops - visit the EVENTS page on the University's website (<http://www.sussex.ac.uk/lasi/newsandevents/events>) 🐝

Who's who and how to contact them

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Harlow	Nick Holmes	T: 07730-735752
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09 14.30 - Brood inspection and microscopy with Jane & Richard Ridler, Saffron Walden Division
Sewards End Hall, CB10 2LG

15 18:00 - Queen finding marking & clipping session, Chelmsford Division
Divisional Apiary, Hylands Park, Chelmsford

15 14:30-15:30 -Dealing with a colony from hell, Epping Forest Division
Wansted, London, E11 2LN

16 14:30-16:30 - Garden party & talk by Howard Jones, Project Manager, Orchards East, Saffron Walden Division
Little Easton, Dunmow

17 19:30-21:00 - Monthly Meeting - making up nucs, Chelmsford Division
The Link Trinity Methodist Church, Chelmsford

20 09:00-16:00 - Bee health day, Romford Division
The Millennium Centre. The Chase, Dagenham Road, Romford, RM7 0SS

23 Blackwater Show, Maldon Division
Great Chigborough

26 Global Honeys and Honey Tasting, by Paul Kelly, Southend Division
Address: tbc

29 Apiary meeting: beehives needn't cost the earth and new honey processing room
Castle Camps, CB21 4TW



And now for something completely different

How well do you know the London Underground system?

Here's a little quiz to see if you can identify these stations. Example: Monarch is angry
Answer: Kings Cross

Questions

1. Make 'em sick
2. Monks with dirty hands
3. A road with a betting shop
4. Ecological vicars
5. Richard Whittington's Des Res
6. Charred quercus robur
7. Dorian's domain
8. Passports please
9. Cockney rabbit 'ole
10. Woof woof

Answers
1. Turners Green, 2. Blackfriars, 3. Ladbroke Grove, 4. Parsons Green, 5. Mansion House, 6. Burnt Oak, 7. Grays Inn, 8. Heathrow, 9. Warren Street & 10. Barking

Update from the CEC Chair

Jane Ridler, Chair, CEC



I have an introduction to make - we have a new Editor! Introducing Robert Silver (Maldon & Dengie) as our new Essex Beekeeper Magazine Editor. Let me welcome him on everyone's behalf and encourage you all to think of opportunities to contribute Essex based content for the magazine. It came through very strongly in the recent survey that members want to read more local news. There may be some tweaks in this month's 'Beekeeper' (every editor's prerogative!) but Robert will also be contributing to the reviewing process that the CEC is currently undertaking for the magazine and news distribution.

The new CEC Divisional Trustees and Treasurer were introduced last month. In addition to our new editor we have another member of the team who will provide much appreciated input. Garth Milford, (Saffron Walden Division), will with his expertise in computer systems, be guiding us through our inevitable transition into the new BBKA eR2 membership system when and if it is agreed by the trustees.

Looking forward as another full beekeeping season gets underway – here is a quote from the illustrious 'Father' of Irish beekeeping, the Rev Joseph G Digges, from the turn of the twentieth century. (So many Reverends in the nineteenth century!)

'Speeding upon the fragrant breezes through every sunny hour of May, the gatherers have carried home great quantities of nectar to fill to overflowing each vacant cell. The queen, who possessed of an insatiable desire for reproduction and in the full flow of maternal vigour, has increased by thousands daily the number of her children, now finds herself encroached upon in her domain'.

I hope you are ready for both these eventualities so poetically described, viz. harvesting honey and preventing/controlling/

on 'Important things beekeepers have taught me'. This proved to be another interesting and informative talk by Clive. He showed many photographs of beekeepers past and present who have influenced his journey from metallurgist to world-renowned beekeeper and author.

Much information of past events and people was called forth, leaving the younger members with an appreciation of the history of beekeeping in Essex and 'older' members with fond memories of the characters and places of past decades.

The meeting finished at approximately 5.15pm. 🐝

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To ensure inclusion within the diary of county-wide events would Divisions provide the editor with details of local meetings by the 4th of the previous month.

Robert Silver – robert.silver@outlook.com

13. Conference 2019 Preview: Given by Tony Yeats (Saffron Walden)

- The Conference will be hosted by Saffron Walden Division, on Sunday 20th October 2019, at Felsted School, Dunmow CM6 3JL.
- The theme will be “The Changing Face of Beekeeping”.
- Speakers will be Will Messenger, Jed Marshall, Dr Jonas Geldman and Prof. Steve Martin.
- Price £25 per head.

14. Two Propositions were admitted for discussion

Two Chelmsford Division members were proposed for Honorary County Life Membership - Roy Hardwicke and Richard Alabone. Written citations were available for the meeting. The CEC recommended acceptance. The elevation of the two members were agreed *nem con*.

15. Installation of 2019 Presiding Officer

Tony Yeats, Chair of Saffron Walden Division, will be Presiding Officer for 2018. Tony read from the Book of Commemoration.

————— This concluded the AGM business —————

Presentation of Awards

BBKA certificates were given out by the EBKA President, Pat Allen for those members who were successful in the BBKA Module examinations.

(Certificates for absentees were collected by an attendee from their division).

Break for refreshments kindly provided by Saffron Walden Division

Presentation by Clive de Bruyn

Following the AGM there was a presentation by Clive de Bruyn

collecting swarms (in that order!) After our warm early spring, and even with a cooler March and early April, I don't think swarming will be waiting till into May for us like for Rev Diggles.

A couple of weeks ago I attended the Eastern Region Forum in Cambridgeshire, run by Keith Morgan, our Regional Bee Inspector. It has developed into an excellent day of information sharing and lectures on bee diseases and pests. There were two lectures on the Asian hornet and an excellent presentation from Prof. Giles Budge on CBPV. There was a good audience, but Essex was definitely under represented with only 3 delegates. I think it would be a good idea for the future, if a representative from each Division could go along. There was much to be reported back, especially with regard to the Asian hornet. It seems evident that in the last couple of years, the appearance of individuals and young nests have arrived in England as a result of rogue stowaways, on the likes of imported cauliflowers and camper vans. But alas, the strong push of thriving large colonies through France has now resulted in the arrival of the hornets at the north coast. Can they now just be blown over? Make the most of this season!! 🐝

Save the date : EBKA Conference 2019

THE CHANGING FACE OF BEEKEEPING

SAFFRON WALDEN BEEKEEPERS

Sunday, 20 October 2019
Felsted School, Dunmow, CM6 3JL

Tickets available (£25): www.swbka.org

Will Messenger:
the history of beekeeping and the history of the Porter Escape. (There will also be an exhibition of artefacts on display in the Foyer.)

Jed Marshall: A year in the life of a professional beekeeper

Dr Jonas Geldman,
University of Cambridge:
Does conserving honeybees help wildlife?

Professor Steve Martin,
University of Salford: Our search to understand long term Varroa tolerance

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Teaching apiary nucleus colonies

By The Ipswich & East Suffolk Beekeepers' Association, via eBees

Last season Barrie Powell trialled the idea of letting beginners who regularly came to the Sunday meetings start off their own nucs and manage them until they were confident in handling the colony, at which point they could take them as their own. If you are a beginner beekeeper this is an excellent way of starting off as a nuc is a small colony (in this case 3 frames) that is much easier to handle than a hive-full. 🐝

Essex Beekeepers' Association

Minutes of the 139th Annual General meeting held on Saturday 16th March 2019 at Writtle College, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 3RP

These minutes will be considered correct if no objection is raised in writing or by email before Friday 31st May 2019.

Any point challenged will be brought before the next meeting for amendment/correction of the record.

Presiding Officer: Anthony Stark (Braintree Division)

Also present: As Attendance List.

A period of silence was observed to remember our fellow beekeepers who had died during the past year.

1. Apologies for absence were received from Derek Johnson, Pat Holden, Terry Watson, Michael Elliott, David Cole.
2. The Minutes of the 138th AGM had been published in The Essex Beekeeper for review by members. No challenges to the accuracy had been received so the minutes were signed by the Presiding Officer as a true record.
3. The Report from the CEC Chair was published in the March 2019 issue of The Essex Beekeeper. The CEC Chair thanked the

Book of Commemoration Sec'y:	Penny Learmonth
Webmaster:	Nick Holmes
Advertising Secretary:	Jean Smye
Distribution Secretary:	Michael Elliott

10. Confirmation of Accounts Examiner (External Auditor)

Richard Ridler explained the need for an examiner so that the association takes some degree of responsibility.

The incoming County Treasurer, Paras Shah, was instructed to organise an accounts examiner.

Ian Grant (Divisional Treasurer - Chelmsford) asked if the examiner needed to be 'professionally qualified' The meeting was advised that the accounts (Divisional and Consolidated) were not required to be audited, only examined. The CEC were to investigate whether an examination by a member from another Division was adequate.

11. Report from the Governance Sub-Committee

The chair of the sub-committee gave a brief update on the progress made reminding the meeting that the Rules must be 'fit-for-purpose'. The next issue they would tackle would be the Financial Safeguarding standards.

12. Conference 2018 Report: Given by Anthony Stark (Braintree)

- Held at Chelmsford Racetrack with 135 delegates.
- Excellent venue and catering.
- Two of the speakers were a bit 'lighter' on beekeeping matters than was hoped but the third speaker (Dr. Rowena Jenkins) was first-class.

8. Election of County Non-Trustee posts

President: Pat Allen was happy to continue in the post (1 year left of maximum term) and was re-elected *nem con*,

Proposed: Paul Abbott,

Seconded: Jane Ridler

BBKA Delegate: **Richard Ridler** was elected *nem con*,

Proposed: Jane Ridler

Seconded: Stuart Mitson

Editor: **Robert Silver** was elected *nem con*

Proposed: Jean Smye

Seconded: David Smye

Education Secretary: No Nomination

Examinations Secretary: **Stephanie Green** was proposed and was elected *nem con*,

Proposed: Jim McNeill

Seconded: Jane Ridler

NHS Delegate: **Jim McNeill** was re-elected *nem con*,

Proposed: Paul Abbott

Seconded: Jim Rushbrook

Show Committee Secretary: **Pauline Tidmas** was re-elected *nem con*,

Proposed: Ian Nichols

Seconded: Pat Allen

Bee Health Delegate: **Ian Nichols** was re-elected *nem con*,

Proposed: Paul Abbott

Seconded: Jan Tutton

9. Notification of CEC Co-opted Members

Chair of Governance sub-committee: Ted Gradosielski

Minutes Secretary: Vanessa Wilkinson

Membership Secretary: Pat Allen

retiring Trustees and others, in particular Ian Nichols and Tom Keeper for their contributions.

The Chair said she also wished to thank Jean Smye. Jean is retiring from EBKA CEC roles after three decades of service. After starting as County Secretary, Jean went on to fulfill most roles within the CEC up to this year. The Chair asked members to express their thanks - there was 'hear, hear' followed by a round of applause.

She advised that the current postholders had performed well - Tony Rand, Ted Gradosielski - with Richard Ridler holding the fort as interim County Treasurer - with Paras Shah joining as Treasurer and three new Trustees, together with a new Editor, will further strengthen the CEC team.

Jane thanked the many volunteers in Divisions for their hard work.

The need to update our Policies and Finance rules were ongoing - it was important to balance the vigour of our organisation with the sort of association that we are. For example, Safeguarding - the policy was in place and some Divisions have theirs in place and it was important that they cover what specifically happens.

Communication, between the CEC and Divisions and between Divisions was vital. The CEC Chair had visited most Divisions and would get to the others. The need for instant information regarding events, etc. would be the subject of an article in the Essex Beekeeper, which will remain a vital link for the news about Conference, County Honey Show, Bee Health Day, etc.

4. General Treasurer's Report and Approval of the 2018 Accounts

Copies of the examined accounts were in the AGM pack.

The interim County Treasurer had been handed over meticulous accounts by Tom Keeper.

He had not made any changes in his short tenure, but was satisfied that more rigour was needed in our financial affairs. If there were any questions on the accounts would members please email - richard.ridler@uwclub.net.

He was of the opinion that a reserve of £18,000 was too much.

He stressed that the accounts were a Receipt and Payments record only so it was difficult to compare year to year as there was less detail than would be shown by a Balance Sheet.

The accounts were approved *nem con*.

5. Reports from other members of the Central Executive Committee

The General Secretary had only been in post since the autumn. He thanked those who had been supportive during this brief period and had been involved with those matters contained in reports by others.

The Education Secretary's report was in the AGM pack. It would be for Divisions to organise the Basic Assessment preparation for candidates. Higher level training would be on a one-off basis similar to the Asian Hornet day by Epping Forest Division.

The Examinations Secretary's report was in the AGM pack. Further to this, the Exams Secretary said that she had Certificates to present for those successful in the Modules. Divisions were asked to encourage members to take the Basic Assessment - it was not an ordeal, but a learning process in its own right. 16 members had taken BBKA Module examinations with a further 9 sitting next week.

The Show Committee Chair reported on the progress for this years show. It would take place at Orsett Showground on the Saturday 7th September. The Committee had met earlier in the month with all Divisions having representation. The Judges had been booked. He asked for greater participation in submitting exhibits and attendance at the show, He congratulated Mike

Barke and Pauline Tidmas for going on the the National Honey Show and winning major classes with their entries.

6. Election of County Officers (Trustees)

CEC Chairman: Jane Ridler was willing to continue and was re-elected *nem con*,

Proposed: Nick Holmes

Seconded: Paul Abbott

General Treasurer: Paras Shah was nominated and elected *nem con*,

Proposed: Richard Ridler

Seconded: Pauline Tidmas

General Secretary: Tony Rand was proposed and was elected *nem con*,

Proposed: Jean Smye

Seconded: Ian Nichols

7. Notification of the 2019 Divisional Voting Members (Trustees) and 2020 Presiding Officer

Braintree	Bridget Mudd
Chelmsford	Jan Tutton
Colchester	Tony Rand
DH & Maldon	Glenn Mayes
Epping Forest	Don McHale
Harlow	Nick Holmes
Romford	Paul Wiltshire
Saffron Walden	Vanessa Wilkinson
Southend	Vernon Amor

The 2020 Presiding Officer will be Tony Yeats of Saffron Walden Division.