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Secretary's Report

AGM January 23rd 2025

2024 final membership totalled 89 and was roughly at a similar level to the previous year.

As of 1st January 2025 the membership tally stands at 55 renewals with 34 members yet to respond. For those yet to renew please note that prompt payment of subscriptions ensures unbroken insurance cover. Late subscriptions unavoidably incur a break in insurance cover.

From Member feedback 2024 was in many ways a more testing year with the bees in comparison to the previous two years when a number of beekeepers reported some good honey harvests. Noticeable in 2024 the spring was again a very wet one although the bees did seem to generally cope with this and seemed to have played catch up moving into the summer. But when the summer arrived it seemed short lived and there were only sporadic nectar flows which finished earlier than the norm. In some instances, resulting in lower stores and supplementary feeding above the norm needed. It is advisable now to check stores on colonies as with the days lengthening and Brood Rearing on the increase the bees will quickly diminish remaining stores.

One promising point was the reduction in Asian Hornet/Yellow Legged Hornet sightings for the season with the number of Asian Hornet Nests destroyed reduced to 24 nests compared to the 72 nests in 2023. This was likely a combination of the successful nest tracing in 2023, the weather of last winter and the effects of spring trapping on Queens before they started nest building. Also there seems to be growing public awareness to the threat and a realisation that this is not just a beekeeping problem but something which will affect everyone if they establish.

There was no safari last year but if there is sufficient interest from observers matched by a willingness of members to make their apiary available then this valuable and enjoyable learning event will be run again in 2025

A thank you to the Officers for their organisation of various events and to members volunteering as without them the Group would not function.

Lastly if any members would like to take on a more active role within the Group, please do make the committee aware

Wishing all members success in 2025

Marcus Pilling (Roseland Bee Group Secretary)

January 12th, 2025



*Roseland Beekeeping Group is a member of Cornwall Beekeepers Association
Registered Charity No 298470 - www.cbka.co.uk
which is an area association member of the British Beekeepers Association
Registered Charity No. 212025 - www.bbka.org.uk*

