



Chair: Geoff Hodgson

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Secretary's Report

AGM January 2019

The RBG 2018 final membership totalled 80 (85 in 2017) .

Currently 2019 confirmed membership as follows;

Full member	33 (Jan 2 nd 2019)	
Partner Member	4	
Junior Member	0	
Other membership	2	
Total 2019 Confirmed membership		39
Total 2018 members yet to respond		45

Membership for 2018 was slightly down on the previous year . This was in line with other CBKA Groups and possibly the result of the prolonged wet winter and colony losses above the norm resulting in higher non-renewals

With just over half of 2018 members yet to confirm renewal of Membership it is difficult to gauge where final membership will stand although if most members do renew then Membership will remain at roughly the same level*

*The CBKA have requested subscription renewals by January 31st 2019 .

This has been advised to members and will ensure individuals are included within the 'Spring Membership'. It would therefore be appreciated if members who have yet to renew do so shortly . Renewal after this date will mean those members will be included in the 'Autumn Membership'

2018 was undoubtedly a year of extremes . One of the wettest and prolonged winters for many years followed by the 'Beast from the East' and then as if to balance things a never ending summer with some of the hottest and longest spells of summer shine on record . Additionally a late spring but early summer seemed to temper the bees desire to swarm and from members feedback swarming was well down on 2017. The result of all this was reports from members advising of well above the average winter losses but come September many members advising of their best honey crop for years and generally the bees had recovered from the early set back.

It is a wonder how the bees so readily adapt to micro conditions , no doubt the reason why they have been around for a 100 millions years or so.

Other reported feedback from members was that there seemed to be less of a problem with varroa and DWV but on the downside we had in Cornwall our first



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encounter with the Asian Hornet . This time thanks to the vigilance and prompt action the invader seems to have been repelled but without doubt moving forward we need to be continually on the alert to this threat .

I would like to thank the Officers for all their efforts and support in 2018 and also to those members who regularly turn out and offer support at Events.

It would be good to see some new members taking on some of the Officer Roles. The success of the Group relies on new input so if you can assist please let me know .

Hope to see you at the AGM and wish all members success in 2019 with the bees

Marcus Pilling (Roseland Bee Group Secretary)

January 2nd 2019



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