

# HEREFORDSHIRE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

England & Wales · Charity number 1174917

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** CIO

**Registered** 2017-10-02

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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**Address** Westholme  
Fownhope  
Hereford  
Herefordshire  
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HR1 4NN

**Phone** 07447 035 668

**Email** [honsechbka@gmail.com](mailto:honsechbka@gmail.com)

**Website** <https://herefordshirebeekeepers.org.uk>

## Activities

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**Objects:** TO FURTHER THE CRAFT OF BEEKEEPING AND ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN APICULTURE AND THE IMPORTANCE OF HONEY BEES IN THE ENVIRONMENT. TO ENCOURAGE, INFORM AND IMPROVE THE CRAFT OF BEEKEEPING FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT.

**Activities:** The Herefordshire Beekeepers' Association supports and promotes beekeeping in the county of Herefordshire. We run training and social events with the aim of helping our membership improve their beekeeping. We have an Association apiary at Holme Lacy which we use for teaching purposes. We also give talks and demonstrations to local interested groups and schools.

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training, Environment/conservation/heritage
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

## Geography

- Herefordshire

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£10,890	£10,420	-	-
2023-12-31	£11,738	£10,857	-	-
2022-12-31	£14,018	£12,443	-	-
2021-12-31	£6,875	£5,915	-	-
2020-12-31	£6,876	£5,915	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
David Anthony Taylor		2024-03-10
Dr Roger Stephen Colin Gill		2019-05-22
Janelle Quitman		2023-04-23
Roger Woodhead		2026-04-22
Simon Vivian Durrant		2024-04-18

**HEREFORDSHIRE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION**

England & Wales - Charity number 1174917

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# Accounts

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## Hon. Treasurer's Report

As in previous years, the biggest single expenditure is the capitation fee to the British Beekeepers' Association (BBKA) followed by the payment made to Bee Diseases Insurances on behalf of our members. What is left comes to the Herefordshire Beekeepers' Association. We have recently been advised that the BBKA will be increasing next years' capitation fee by £2 per member, and this will have to be passed on to members. It is not the HBKA Committee's current intention to increase its part of the subscription.

Once again, we have shown a small surplus in our current assets, this year of £470.14 after allowing for payments made in 2024 for the beginners' course in 2025. We have estimated that our fixed assets have declined in value by £1476, Display material, including Asian Hornet material, for the Honey Show and other shows, has been expensed in the year, rather than being capitalised

Administration costs increased because we paid for a first aid at work course for a number of members. These members have volunteered to attend LAN meetings, but they will need to requalify in three years' time. We are this year, 2025, acquiring first aid kits to ensure that each LAN has an up to date one

We have invested in some iron-on embroidered badges for resale. We also commissioned hoodies, fleeces and other garments with the Association logo on for purchase by our members. The Association receives a small commission on these, which will be shown in the 2025 accounts.

We continue to sit on a useful financial cushion. There are numbers of options that could be considered for how we might invest this money for the benefits of members, for example the long-mooted training apiary in the East LAN. However, as always, we are short of people who are prepared to undertake the work to fulfil these ideas.

We would encourage anyone prepared to put in the effort to come forward with proposals that accord with our charitable purpose:

To further the craft of beekeeping and advance the education of the public in apiculture and the importance of honey bees in the environment. To encourage, inform and improve the craft of beekeeping for the public benefit.

Roger Gill

## Herefordshire Beekeepers Association Financial Activities

January - December 2024

January - December 2023

## Herefordshire Beekeepers Association Assets

	31-Dec-24	31-Dec-23	
<b>Income</b>			
Subscriptions	6132.67	7292.30 (2023 included some 2022)	
Total Big Apple Income	1253.40	775.05	
Total LANs income	1005.00	900.00	
Three Counties Show sales	576.32	337.24	
Training Course Fees	1500.00	1774.60	
Other income	139.67	551.56	
Total Income	10607.06	11630.75	
<b>Expenditures</b>			
Total Admin	1541.87	1003.81	
Advertising/promotional/website	859.59	835.20	
BBKA Capitation	3845.00	3973.50	
Bee Diseases Insuranc	766.95	780.80	
Total Big Apple Show expenditure	1086.27	892.14	
HBKA Meetings	292.44	832.19	
Insurances	167.51	165.96	
Online meetings and training	195.00	380.32	
Total LAN costs	184.05	217.33	
Three Counties expenditure	242.76	236.35	
Training apilary expenditures	66.50	53.68	
Training course expenditure	989.97	777.85	
Purchases for resale	182.40	708.00	
Total Expenditures	10420.31	10857.13	
Net Operating Income	186.75	773.62	
Interest on savings	283.39	107.17	
<b>Net Income/(Expenditure)</b>	<b>470.14</b>	<b>880.79</b>	
Training fees paid in advance	1700.00	297.00	
Membership fees paid in advance	111.80	0.00	
Training costs paid in advance	0.00	335.00	
Depreciation	1476.01	1790.68	
<b>Cash position:</b>			
	31-Dec-24	31-Dec-23	
Lloyds Bank	10100.88	8367.21	
Mommouthshire BS	10950.69	10667.3	
PayPal	1508.84	1,205.96	
	<b>£22,560.41</b>	<b>£20,240.47</b>	Change
			<b>£2,319.94</b>
<b>less accruals</b>			
Adv trng fees	1700	297	
Adv membership fee	111.8		
Adv trng costs	0	-335	
<b>Current assets</b>	<b>£20,748.61</b>	<b>£20,278.47</b>	Change
			<b>£470.14</b>
<b>Other assets</b>			
For insurance purposes, these are valued at replacement cost			
	31-Dec-23	Depreciation	31-Dec-24
Cups and trophies	2500	0	2500
Boilers/extractors	563.2	-112.64	450.56
Microscopes/projector	524	-104.8	419.2
Apiaries	3971.2	-794.24	3176.96
Gazebos/display materials	537.6	-107.52	430.08
Library	384	-76.8	307.2
Wax melter	217.33	-43.466	217.33
Bee suits	1182.72	-236.544	946.176
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9880.05</b>	<b>-1476.01</b>	<b>8447.506</b>
			*20% pa declining balance



**HEREFORDSHIRE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION**

England & Wales - Charity number 1174917

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# Accounts

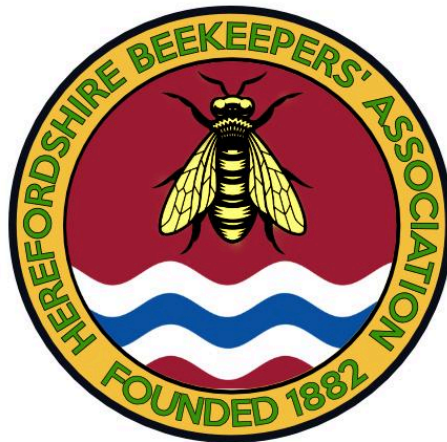
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# Herefordshire Beekeepers' Association

## Annual General Meeting

7.00pm March 5th, 2024

Agenda, Minutes and Reports



The Annual General Meeting  
Of the  
Herefordshire Beekeepers' Association  
Will be held at  
Belmont Community Centre,  
HR2 7UQ  
On  
Tuesday 5th March, 2024

THE MEETING WILL COMMENCE at 7.00pm

AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 23rd March, 2023
3. Matters arising
4. Adoption of the Annual Reports by Trustees
5. Finance
6. Election of Trustees
7. Any other business

<b>Trustees of Charity who manage HBKA</b>		
Anthony Ravenhall	Chairman	
Val Lilwall	Vice Chairman	
Dr Roger Gill	Treasurer	
Steve Utley	Membership Secretary	Apiary Manager
Janelle Quitman	Hon. Secretary	
Val Lilwall	Honey Show Secretary	South LAN Secretary
John Moxley		incoming AHAT Coordinator
Deborah Smith		Exam Secretary
		BBKA Delegate
Mary Walter		BBKA ADM Reserve Delegate

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
of the  
HEREFORDSHIRE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION  
Registered Charity No. 1174917  
was held at  
Belmont Community Centre, HR2 7UQ on

**Thursday 23rd March 2023**  
THE MEETING COMMENCED AT 7.00 pm  
MINUTES

**Apologies:** Peter Luzteier, Andrew Barnes, David Hewlett, Sarah Jane Mason, Sharon Morris, Samantha James, Sarah Whittaker, Dave , David Pealing, Ann Shawcross, Kim Clarke, Richard Scott, Steve Parker, Terry Bullock, Dave Taylor.

**Attendees:** Full members Carol Bean, Graham Cook, Bob Cross, Ellen Davies, Simon Durrant, Rod Ellis, Isobel Goddard, Andy Hayward, Val Lilwall, Kate Nieveen, Colin Pavey, Don Priestman, Janelle Quitman, Lorna Radnor, Tony Ravenhall, Alistair Ross, Debbie Smith, Jonathan Tanburn, Steve Utley, Mary Walter, Rob Williams, Nikki Whitaker, Chris Wright.

**Associate members:** Kath Cross, Alan Jenyon, John Kinross, Robin Moore.

**Visitor:** Mrs Kinross

1. Appointment of meeting Chairman: Colin Pavey was elected to act as meeting Chairman, proposed by Roger Gill, seconded by Steve Utley.
2. Minutes of the meeting held on 24th March 2022, these were accepted by the members present, proposed by Roger Gill, seconded by Val Lilwall.
3. Matters arising. none.
4. Adoption of the Annual Reports. These were accepted by members, proposed by Isabel Goddard, seconded by Tony Ravenhall.
5. Finance. Roger Gill explained the cash takings from the Saturday at the Three Counties show had been lost. As a result of this a cash handling procedure had been put in place and implemented at the honey show. He hoped to arrange an apiary site for the East LAN, but this would require an apiary manager.
6. Election of nine Trustees. Nicola Percival, Charlotte Taylor and Rod Ellis had resigned during the year. Janelle Quitman offered to stand as trustee and was elected together with the existing trustees.
7. Any Other Business: Members who had been successful in the honey show were congratulated for their success. The honey show trophies were awarded to the winners. An ornamental hive tool was awarded to Bob Cross who has been an enormous support to the trustees over the last few years. There was an enquiry from a member of the audience whether we had claimed the grant available from the Three Counties showground towards costs of our display. The treasurer was unsure whether this had been received.
8. The meeting concluded at 7.25pm

9. Signed

Dated

## Chairman's Report

2023 was an interesting year for the Association and the committee and we've seen quite a few changes to the committee with long term members retiring and new faces replacing them. But more on that later. Overall it's been a good year, with membership and attendance at LAN meetings staying at re-pandemic levels as the interest in beekeeping as a hobby maintains its place in the public's awareness.

The numbers on our beginners course has remained steady with many course attendees going on to get their own colonies and become active beekeepers.

The annual honey show, again held at Hellens Manor, Much Marcle, was very successful and although entries for the various sections were lower than we would have liked, the honey sales and Bob's ever-popular demonstration tents were very well received and attended.

One of the main concerns has continued to be the threat of the incursion of Asian Hornet. The committee, together with the BBKA, has been very proactive in disseminating information to our membership and promoting public awareness of this invasive creature and the harm it brings, not just to the honey bee, but to pollinators in general. We are committed to continue our programme of education and aiding our members to help combat this menace both practically and with additional information where possible.

Our programme of talks and workshops has continued throughout the year, both on-line and in person with some of the high-lights being The Healthy Bee Day, Our continuing relationship with the team of Buckfast Abbey Beekeepers, Wax workshops and Andy Pedley's talk on Food Safety for the Beekeeper.

The LANs continue to thrive but this year we need to make sure that their organisation is supported by the membership, with shared responsibility for their administration and running. There will be more on this later on in the year.

The Holme Lacy Apiary has again been expertly and very effectively run by Steve Utley, and is still our premier educational resource for both within the Association and for the public.

This year also saw our adopting of a new style Association Logo, that reflects our location ( the county of Herefordshire), with a reference to our history ( a stylised bee based on a drawing of one of our founders Alfred Watkins).

This emblem if available in badges, on sale at the AGM for the first time at £2, plus sew on fabric patches and clothing items will be on sale later this year to adorn our bee-suits!

We have had several members of the committee who have stepped down this year and I would like to extend a very heartfelt thank you for all their commitment to the Association during their tenure. So a big thanks goes to Rod Ellis, Kate Nieveen, Rob Williams and of course to the incomparable force of nature that is Mary Walter. Again more on that subject later.

May I also take this opportunity to ask members to consider putting themselves forward to join us on the committee. It is not only a rewarding and instructional activity but also benefits our membership and the world of beekeeping as a whole.

So in summary, 2023 has had its successes and challenges but overall we ended the year of a very positive note. The Asian Hornet will continue to concern us in the years ahead and we need to stay vigilant to help reduce the impact of this ever present menace.

May I recommend that you do read the individual officers' reports as they will give you a far more in depth view of the workings of the Association and its Committee.

Anthony Ravenhall, Chairman.

## Hon. Secretary's Report.

There was much to celebrate for HBKA members in 2023. The first, the freedom to attend in-house meetings and converse with fellow beekeepers following long restrictions imposed by the pandemic. In February 2023, full attendance to the Wax Workshop held in Bartestree, inspired by capable demonstrators making wax wraps, encaustic art and decorative candles, resulted in a request for future wax workshops.

Early March saw volunteers turn up on a crisp, cold morning to clean the equipment and the Association shed making ready for the spring programme of meetings. It was a case of many hands making light work amongst much laughter.

The Beginners' Course held in March, April and May had a full complement of attendees, many of whom became regular visitors to the Association Apiary contributing by becoming fully involved throughout the season; baking cakes, and, following hive inspections, helping set up and putting away chairs for the talks.

Congratulations to the three beekeepers who passed their Basic Assessment. It was held at the Association apiary in the summer, on a very wet Saturday, adjudicated by Jim Vivian-Griffiths. Thanks must go to our Apiary Manager, Steve Utley who prepared the bees - and the umbrellas! - for the day. Well done, Andy Hayward, Dave Taylor and John Moxley. Hopefully these three will be encouraged to take the next practical step towards the Honeybee Health Certificate which requires beekeepers to have kept colonies for at least three years.

The Three Counties Show took place at Malvern and it was Gloucestershire's turn to lead the Bees and Honey Marquee where they included an interactive touch screen for visitors. Herefordshire enjoyed engaging the children in candle rolling and members came away with prizes for their honey, wax, mead and forage entries. Please don't be shy about volunteering to help at our stand for a couple of hours.

The unpredictable English summer weather did its best to test preparations for outdoor gatherings but our thanks to Mike Healey and his wife who kindly hosted a hog roast and cider evening, with added advice to 'bring wellies'. The rain held off and fun was had by all.

In July, a Healthy Bee Day was held at Sutton St Nicholas. We had an opportunity to see irradiated combs of AFB and EFB supplied by seasonal and regional bee inspectors. Informative talks on, and application of, biosecurity was a full and useful day for everyone, including Ludlow BKA visitors.

After a mixed harvest for some, we hosted Tony Pedley, a retired health inspector, who gave us a talk on Food Safety for Beekeepers to which we also included invitations to Ludlow BKA. Tony brought along copies of his book for sale as a helpful reference at a later date.

Throughout the year at the Association apiary, following hive inspections, talks were given by volunteers on a schedule of seasonal subjects. Without our well run apiary by Steve Utley, the help of Val Lilwall and the volunteers, this valued resource would not function as smoothly and educationally as it does. Equally, in North LAN, Rihards Krauze has hosted regular apiary safaris and Simon Durrant has stepped forward to volunteer to organise apiary visits for East LAN.

On one of these occasions there was a session on making observation wick baits and traps against the Asian Hornet. Rob Williams has stepped down from the committee as AHAT coordinator. With the imminent threat of the invasive Yellow-legged Asian Hornet, *Vespa velutina nigrithorax*, John Moxley has accepted to take on this role. It is hoped by now that all members in Herefordshire have downloaded the free Asian Hornet Watch app onto their smart mobile phone.

Hon. Sec. Report Continued from page 5.

In the autumn, on Big Apple Day weekend, the HBKA Honey Show was held at Hellens Gardens, Much Marcle. South LAN had new enthusiastic members who were involved in the successful outcome of winning the LAN challenge. The subject was Beekeeping and Medicine through the ages. Many thanks to all who attended and entered exhibits. Particular thanks to our Show Secretary Val Lilwall, Steve Utley and Cath & Bob Cross for making the honey show a smooth-running success. Hopefully next year we can increase the entries to 100 - making us eligible for the Blue Ribbon Award. Andy Hayward and John Moxley assisted the Honey Judge and found it very interesting, learning what the Judge is looking for and how to achieve show-winning entries. Being stewards at honey shows is an ideal way for beginners to learn about producing quality honey and hive products.

At the end of the season, after preparing our hives for winter, Steve Utley organised zoom talks with Buckfast Abbey beekeepers, Claire Densley and Martin Hann, who took us through the winter evenings sharing their experiences and answering questions on the active season past. Steve has arranged for more of these talks at the end of the year. Our thanks must go to Steve for doing so much for the Association, including his role as Membership Secretary.

Thanks must go to all the Trustees for their work on the Committee particularly Tony for stepping in as Chair and conducting committee meetings so cheerfully. To Roger for doing a splendid job as Treasurer, a most responsible position.

Our two prime sources of disseminating information to all the members is via the website and the *Buzzword* Newsletter. Our thanks to Kirsten Ellerby and Roger Gill for their continued and prompt production of the monthly newsletter.

Finally, and most importantly, it remains for us all to express our profound and grateful thanks to Mary Walter, who, for twenty years, has held the post of Hon. Secretary. Mary has a great wealth of knowledge and shares it generously. With patient kindness, help and support she handed over this role at the end of last year - in incremental measure, so as not to overwhelm me with the many tasks all at once. I know you will join me in wishing her continued success with her beekeeping.

Janelle Quitman

# Membership Secretary

**2023.** The colonies started swarming before many beekeepers were ready for it and the swarm collectors were busy very early on. Weather wise the season was up and down, often very wet, often very dry!

Although the number of members with bees only increased very slightly (4), the number of hives insured increased by over 100 in number and it could be easily seen on the renewals that many members had increased their stocks.

It is disappointing that we lose several members each year, where they have lost their bees over the winter, got disheartened and decided to give up. I know that even the most experienced beekeeper might lose a colony or two over the winter but many of these members that give up are people that start their beekeeping journey prior to the winter. Preparing for the winter is very important for the colony and if anyone is unsure how to prepare or what they need to do in the winter, please ask for help. We have a WhatsApp group that is available to any member, this can and does get used to ask questions. Go along to any of the apiary meetings organised by the LANs, it doesn't matter whether it is your LAN or not, you can still attend any of them. You will meet other beekeepers and beekeepers just love talking about bees.

Listed here are the 2023 figures

Full Membership numbers increased to 186  
Local/Associate Membership numbers reduced to 48  
Partnership Membership nudged up to 5

Total Membership - 239 (2022 figure - 243).

Total colonies insured (BDI) – 1216 (2022 figure - 1089)

Tuesday meetings at our Training Apiary in Holme Lacy were well attended each week. We regularly had 20+ members from all LANs who were split into groups and helped through inspections by our more experienced beekeepers. These inspections were followed by a talk on a pre-arranged subject, plus the usual tea/coffee and cake.

It was pleasing to see new beekeepers/beginners regularly attending and enjoying learning how to look after bees.

We continue to do the Zoom meetings over the winter months, often with Clare and Martin from Buckfast. Each presentation is well attended and members have said how they find them really interesting and many have learned something from them, even if they have seen the talk before.

Steve Utley

## HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT 2023

As in previous years, the biggest single expenditure is the capitation fee to the British Beekeepers Association (BBKA) followed by the payment made to Bee Diseases Insurances on behalf of our members. What is left comes to the Herefordshire Beekeepers Association

Once again we have shown a small surplus in our current assets, this year of £880.79 after allowing for payments and costs made in 2023 for the beginners' course in 2024. We have estimated that our fixed assets have declined in value by £1791, but have invested in a new wax melter for the North LAN. We purchased a projection screen and a pop up Asian hornet display stand, neither of which have been capitalised. We also had to purchase urgently a new card reader, the other having failed on the morning of the Honey Show.

As we were not hosts for the beekeeping display at the Royal Three Counties Show this year, both the associated revenues and costs are much smaller than last year.

We have in 2023 invested in items for resale. These include Trappit Bait, which we sell on at cost and would encourage member to purchase in order to be able to monitor the possible arrival of Asian hornets in our area. Looking across the channel to the depredations of honeybee colonies in France, and looking at the sightings of Asian hornet in the UK in 2023 (more than all the previous confirmed UK sightings put together) the Asian hornet possibly offers the greatest single, imminent threat to our activities as beekeepers.

We have purchased some metal badges, sporting the new HBKA logo, for resale and are looking at acquiring some fleeces and tee shirts embroidered also with the logo.

We continue to sit on a useful financial cushion, and are open to thought-through proposals as how best these might be used to further the objects of the of the Association:

*To further the craft of beekeeping and advance the education of the public in apiculture and the importance of honey bees in the environment. To encourage, inform and improve the craft of beekeeping for the public benefit.*

Roger Gill  
Treasurer



## HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT 2023

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Roger Gill

## Herefordshire Beekeepers Association

### Financial Activities

January - December 2023

January - December 2022

<b>Income</b>		
Subscriptions	7292.3	6486.48
<b>Total Big Apple income</b>	775.05	950.32
<b>Total LANs ncome</b>	900	600
Three Counties Show sales	337.24	3803.97
Training Apiary Sales	included in show/big apple sales	389
Training Course Fees	1774.6	1788.8
<b>Other income</b>	551.56	
<b>Total Income</b>	11630.75	14018.57
<b>Expenditures</b>		
<b>Total Admin</b>	1003.81	289.2
Advertising/promotional/website	835.2	809.98
<b>BBKA Capitation</b>	3973.5	3904.5
Bee Diseases Insuranc	780.8	744.65
<b>Total Big Apple Show expenditure</b>	892.14	1149.23
Computer & projector costs,	0	334.79
<b>HBKA Meetings</b>	832.19	225.5
Insurances	165.96	144.49
Online meetings and training	380.32	393.88
<b>Total LAN costs</b>	217.33	42.34
Three Counties expenditure	236.35	4391.37
Training apiary expenditures	53.68	13.96
Training course expenditure	777.85	included in admin
<b>Purchases for resale</b>	708	
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	10857.13	12443.89
<b>Net Operating Income</b>	773.62	1574.68
Interest on savings	107.17	47.31
<b>Net Income/(Expenditure)</b>	880.79	1621.99
Training fees paid in advance	297	295.2
Membership fees paid in advance		32.54
Training costs paid in advance	335	
Depreciation	1790.68	2154.6

## Herefordshire Beekeepers Association

### Assets

#### Cash position:

	31-Dec-23	31-Dec-22	
<b>Lloyds Bank</b>	8367.21	7332.51	
<b>Monmouthshire BS</b>	10667.3	10560.13	
<b>PayPal</b>	1,205.96	1832.78	
	<b>£20,240.47</b>	<b>£19,725.42</b>	Change
			<b>£515.05</b>
less accruals			
Adv trng fees	297	295.2	
Adv membership fee		32.54	
Adv trng costs	-335		
			Change
<b>Current assets</b>	<b>£20,278.47</b>	<b>£19,397.68</b>	<b>£880.79</b>

#### Other assets

For insurance purposes, these are valued at replacement cost

	31-Dec-22	Depreciation*	additions	31-Dec-23
Cups and trophies	2500	0		2500
Boilers/extractors	704	-140.8		563.2
Microscopes/projector	655	-131		524
Apiaries	4964	-992.8		3971.2
Gazebo,display materials	672	-134.4		537.6
Library	480	-96		384
Wax melter			217.33	217.33
Bee suits	1478.4	-295.68		1182.72
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11453.4</b>	<b>-1790.68</b>		<b>9880.05</b>

\*20% pa declining balance

**HEREFORDSHIRE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION**

England & Wales - Charity number 1174917

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# Accounts

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**Herefordshire  
Beekeepers'  
Association**

**ANNUAL GENERAL  
MEETING**

**7.00pm March 23rd,  
2023**

**AGENDA, MINUTES AND  
REPORTS**

**THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
of the  
**HEREFORDSHIRE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION**

will be held at

Belmont Community Centre, HR2 7UQ

on

Thursday 23rd March 2023

THE MEETING WILL COMMENCE AT 7.00 pm

**AGENDA**

1. Apologies , Appointment of meeting Chairman
2. Minutes of the meeting held on 24th March 2022
3. Matters arising.
4. Adoption of the Annual Reports.
5. Finance.
6. Election of nine Trustees. During the year Nicola Percival and Charlotte Taylor have resigned, we need to elect two more trustees to replace them.
7. Any Other Business

***Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity:***

Rod Ellis	
Roger Gill	Treasurer
Val Lilwall	
Kate Nieveen	
Tony Ravenhall	
Deborah Smith	Exam secretary
Stephen Utley	Membership Secretary
Mary Walter	Secretary
Robert Williams	AHAT co-ordinator BBKA delegate

# MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON MARCH 24th 2022

**Attendees:** In person: Full members: Andrew Barnes, Bob Cross, Ellen Davies, Roger Gill, Mike Healey, Rihards Krauze, Kate Nieveen, Nicola Percival, Sharon Morris, Colin Pavey, Janelle Quitman, Tony Ravenhall, Haydn Roberts, Ann Shawcross, Bev Startin, Jonathan Tanburn, Charlotte Taylor, Steve Utley, Mary Walter, Rob Williams.

Associate members: Kath Cross, Simon Durrant, Alan Jenyon, John Kinross, Bob and Pam Mendy, Brian Miller-Hall, Robin Moore, Wayne Smith.

**Visitors:** Ellie Chowns, Mrs Kinross.

**Speaker:** Marin Anastasov.

**Online:** Andrew Campbell, Kim Clarke, Rod Ellis, Deborah Smith.  
Chaired by Colin Pavey.

1. Apologies: Peter Lutzeier, Andy Spanjers, David Hewlett, Lorna Radnor, Lindsay Shaw, Chris Wright, Jackie Preddy, Debbie Smith.
2. Appointment of meeting chairman: Colin Pavey agreed to act as meeting chairman; his participation was proposed by Haydn Roberts, seconded by Ellen Davies. Colin remembered the members who had died sadly last year; these were Mike Leigh, Nick Hall and the previous long standing committee members John Harley and Wendy Cummins.
3. Minutes from previous meeting: The minutes were approved and to be signed off. proposed by Steve Utley and seconded by Charlotte Taylor.
4. Matters Arising: none
5. Annual Report This was adopted, proposed by Andrew Barnes and seconded by Jonathan Tanburn.
6. Finance: Roger Gill explained that the majority of the membership subscription is taken up by our contribution towards BBKA capitation and Bee Disease Insurance. Due to the ongoing health concerns and the continued lack of in person meetings our balance sheet is in good health. It should be possible to spend surplus funds when equipment needs replacing. RG explained that visitors to apiary meetings are covered by the Association third party insurance. The committee would like to provide more assistance with training and will fund exam fees for modules and basic assessments. A search for an apiary site for the East LAN is ongoing. The finance report was adopted, proposed by Nicola Percival, seconded by Mike Healey.
7. Election of trustees. Bob Cross had indicated his desire to resign at this AGM. Thanks were given to him for his hard work and contribution to the Association over the last few years. Under the constitution the three longest serving trustees are required to resign every year. These are Nicky Percival, Steve Utley and Rob Williams. If requested they are prepared to stand for re-election. Four new trustees had agreed to stand; these were Tony Ravenhall, Kate Nieveen, Charlie Taylor and Val Lilwall. The new trustees were elected en bloc together with those standing again. Proposed by Rod Ellis, seconded by Mike Healey.

8. Any Other Business. Colin urged members to attend their local LAN meetings and to put forward suggestions for useful expenditure. Those members not interested in furthering their education through the exam route could be encouraged in other ways.

The meeting closed at 19.25pm

Signed.....Date.....

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# **REPORTS**

# **2021 – 2022**

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Unfortunately we are still without a chairman so are unable to provide a chairman's report this year.

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

2022 saw a reduction in the number of serious covid infections prevalent in the population and the lifting of all emergency restrictions brought in to control the pandemic. In person meetings were once again possible, and the trustees eventually went back to meeting in person. The spread of members over our large county has made it sensible to arrange occasional meetings over Zoom, both general discussions, and more formal talks. Claire Densley and Martin Hann from Buckfast Abbey gave several Zoom talks, and we joined the Ludlow and District beekeepers to hear a very informative talk on bait hives from Professor David Evans. I can confirm that his method for attracting swarms with a bait hive can be highly successful.

It was a pleasure to be back at Harper Adams University for the BBKA Annual Convention, to hear a range of well known speakers and to meet beekeeping friends from other Associations.

The beginners course was held in person and we have several "newbees" who have acquired bees already. Good luck to them at the start of their beekeeping career.

The Three Counties show went back to normal, Herefordshire was lead county and we put on a display on pollination. We were responsible for the central honey sales, and again put on candle rolling for the children. This is always a big event over three days, and is quite difficult to find enough volunteers to help. Many hands make light work, so do consider coming along when we appeal for help in June. Conversations with seasoned beekeepers can be a great learning experience. Showing wax and honey is a challenge, and it is always satisfying to win an award.

Three candidates passed their basic assessment in the summer: congratulations to Kate Nieveen, Rod Ellis and Kim Clarke (Worcestershire). Thank you to Kate who has been attending BBKA meetings aimed at encouraging members to further their education. It is no longer necessary to pass the basic assessment prior to taking the BBKA modules. Up to now we have had limited success with members willing to take the modules but Debbie Smith was successful with Modules 5 and 7 in 2021. I can testify to the satisfaction of working through the exam system, although I have probably forgotten most of what I learnt ! Who needs to know the composition of beeswax?

Local Area Networks went back to meeting at regular intervals during the year, the South group met at Holme Lacy at weekly intervals, the East group at various apiaries in their region, and the North group at Woebley. A small group came along to the garden party at Hope-under-Dinmore in July, it was a shame that this fell on the hottest day of the year, most members had obviously decided to stay at home sheltering from the sun.

We staged the Association Honey Show at the Big Apple event at Much Marcle in October. Although entries were down on previous years we did put on an impressive display, and Bob Cross contributed with his bees and equipment. Honey sales were brisk and there was considerable interest from the general public.

Thank you to everyone who helps with the smooth running of the Association, all the volunteers, and trustees: our treasurer Roger Gill, Debbie Smith our exam secretary, membership secretary and apiary manager Steve Utley, general fount of all knowledge Bob Cross, East LAN co-ordinator Sue Garrett, BBKA delegate Rob Williams and Woebley beekeeper Rihards Krauze.

I will be resigning as a trustee after this year's Three Counties show, so if anyone would like to take on the role of secretary please make yourself known to a member of the committee.

Mary Walter

# MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

We had an exceptionally hot and dry summer during 2022 and still our bees carried on. By the end of the season, I think most of our beekeepers had a very good honey crop. Since the lockdown we have have seen a steady increase in the number of beginners taking up beekeeping and this year carried on with that trend. I hope they keep going and enjoy it as the rest of us do. Six years ago, when I started as Membership Secretary we had 140 Full members, last year we had 184 Full members. The total number of hives insured last year for our Full members was 1089 (four years ago it was 754).

Listed here are the 2022 figures:

- Full Membership numbers increased to 184
- Local/Associate Membership numbers jumped up to 56
- Partnership Membership decreased to 3
- Total Membership for 2022 - 243 (2021 figure 216).

Tuesday meetings at our Training Apiary in Holme Lacy was well attended each week. We regularly had 15 - 20 members, split into groups and helped through inspections by our more experienced beekeepers. It was pleasing to see new beekeepers/beginners regularly attending and enjoying, learning how to look after bees. We continue to do the Zoom meetings over the winter months, with Clare and Martin from Buckfast being our favoured presenters. Each presentation is well attended and members have said how they find them really interesting and many have learned something from them. We have also had our virtual beekeeper meetings, again during the winter months, these have mostly proved popular with beekeepers of all levels of experience. Many were able to get advice on any problems they may had encountered and it was a chance to listen to different views, methods and experiences.

Steve Utley

# HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT 2022

As in previous years, the biggest single expenditure is the capitation fee to the British Beekeepers Association (BBKA) followed by the payment made to Bee Diseases Insurances on behalf of our members. What is left comes to the Herefordshire Beekeepers Association

Once again we have shown a small surplus in our current assets, this year of £1245.50 after allowing for payments made in 2022 for the beginners course in 2023. We have estimated that our fixed assets have declined in value by £2155, but have invested in a new projector for use at training courses and meetings.

As 2022 was a year of recovery from lockdown, the cost of meetings in person were not yet up to where we might expect the costs to be this year, but the online meetings have proved to be particularly good value.

The greatest concern of the year was the loss, estimated to be £956, in cash at the Three Counties Show. The matter was enquired into in some depth and full statements made by those present, but it has not been able to establish whether the cash was lost or was stolen by a third person. However, the incident has brought to light an absence of any established procedures for handling cash at such events. On the back of this experience a full set of cash handling procedures was established, trialled at the Big Apple Show in the autumn and modified accordingly. If followed, these procedures should mitigate greatly the probability of such an event recurring, and should anything untoward happen then it will now be reported immediately and appropriate actions can be taken promptly. We encourage all payments to be made by card, but cash remains a significant method of payment at our shows.

The opportunity has also been taken at the same time to tighten up our digital payments' authorisation procedures, to ensure that no losses occur either by error or malfeasance.

**Insurance:** As at this time last year there was considerable concern by many of the bee keeping associations in England that the insurance provided through BBKA to associations did not cover third party liability to visitors to association events. This would curtail the incentive and the possibility of encouraging newcomers and potential recruits from attending meetings joining the associations.

I was (eventually) able to obtain a copy of the full policy documents from the BBKA, and submitted them to an independent broker. That broker was able to confirm that third party liability was indeed covered, provided there is no negligence on the part of those responsible for the meetings. I conveyed this to the BBKA who (eventually) sent round a 'clarification' to all associations.

We can therefore rest a little easier, but nonetheless will continue to take all reasonable measure to mitigate risks.

Roger Gill

<b>Herefordshire Beekeepers Association</b>		
	<b>Financial Activities</b>	
	<b>January - December 2022</b>	<b>January - December 2021</b>
<b>Income</b>		
Subscriptions	6486.48	5765.95
Total Big Apple income	950.32	778.31
Total LANs income	600	1090.00
Hog roast		82.00
Three Counties Show sales	3803.97	0.00
Training Apiary Sales	389	220.00
Training Course Fees	1788.8	1495.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>14018.57</b>	<b>9311.26</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>		
Total Admin	289.2	941.73
Advertising/promotional/website	809.98	354.00
BBKA Capitation	390.45	3318.00
Bee Diseases Insurance	744.65	698.45
Total Big Apple Show expenditure	1149.23	553.45
Computer & projector costs,	334.79	95.99
HBKA Meetings	225.5	27.00
Insurances	144.49	158.09
Online meetings and training	393.88	279.49
Total LAN costs	423.4	182.80
Three Counties expenditure	4391.37	0.00
Training apiary expenditures	13.96	748.73
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>12443.89</b>	<b>7397.73</b>
<b>Net Operating Income</b>	<b>1574.68</b>	<b>1913.53</b>
Interest on savings	47.31	47.10
<b>Net Income/(Expenditure)</b>	<b>1621.99</b>	<b>1960.63</b>
Training fees paid in advance	295.2	1300.00
Membership fees paid in advance	32.54	
Hog roast accrual		-410.00
Depreciation	215.46	2500.00

<b>Herefordshire Beekeepers Association</b>						
			<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Cash position:</b>						
			<b>31-Dec-22</b>	<b>31-Dec-21</b>		
<b>Lloyds Bank</b>			7332.51	7660.25		
<b>Monmouthshire BS</b>			10560.13	10512.82		
<b>PayPal</b>			1832.78	1689.11		
					<b>Change</b>	
			£19,725.42	£19,862.18	-£136.76	
<b>less accruals</b>	<b>Hog roast payment</b>			410		
	<b>Adv trng fees</b>		295.2	1300		
	<b>Adv membership fee</b>		32.54			
					<b>Change</b>	
<b>Current assets</b>			£19,397.68	£18,152.18	£1,245.50	
<b>Other assets</b>						
For Insurance purposes, these are valued at replacement cost						
			<b>31-Dec-21</b>	<b>Depreciation*</b>	<b>additions</b>	<b>31-Dec-22</b>
<b>Cups</b>			2500	0		2500
<b>Boilers/extractors</b>			880	-176		704
<b>Microscopes/projector</b>			400	-80		320
<b>Apiaries</b>			6205	-1241		4964
<b>Gazebo, display material</b>			840	-168		672
<b>Library</b>			600	-120		480
<b>Projector</b>					335	
<b>Bee suits</b>			1848	-369.6		1478.4
<b>TOTAL</b>			13273	-2154.6		11118.4
				<b>*20% pa declining balance</b>		

**HEREFORDSHIRE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION**

England & Wales - Charity number 1174917

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# Accounts

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**Herefordshire  
Beekeepers'  
Association**

**ANNUAL GENERAL  
MEETING**

**7.00pm March 24th,  
2022**

**AGENDA, MINUTES AND  
REPORTS**

**THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
of the  
**HEREFORDSHIRE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION**

will be held at

Belmont Community Centre, HR2 7UQ  
on

Thursday 24th March 2022

THE MEETING WILL COMMENCE AT 7.00 pm

**AGENDA**

1. Apologies and deceased Appointment of meeting Chairman
2. Minutes of the meeting held on 21st March 2021
3. Matters arising.
4. Adoption of the Annual Reports.
5. Finance.
6. Election of nine Trustees. Under the constitution the three longest serving trustees are required to resign every year. These are Nicky Percival, Steve Utley and Rob Williams. If requested they are prepared to stand for re-election.
7. Any Other Business

***Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity:***

Robert Cross	
Rod Ellis	
Roger Gill	Treasurer
Nicola Percival	
Deborah Smith	Vice Chairman
Stephen Utle	Membership Secretary
Mary Walter	Secretary
Robert Williams	AHAT Coordinator BBKA Delegate

## **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON March 21st 2021 by Zoom.**

Attendees: Andrew Barnes, Andy Spanjers, Andy Tatchell, Steve Utle, David Pealing, Dave Sutton, Maureen Sullivan, Colin Pavey, John Robinson, Debbie Smith, Bob Cross, Kath Cross, Ron James, Rob Williams, Nicola Percival, Rihards Krauze, Mary Walter, Ian Bodell, Steve Parker, Val Watson, Tony Mitcheson, Judi Thomas, Ann Shawcross, Alan Jenyon, Jeanie Sherwood, Roger Gill, Rod Ellis, Tony Ravenhall, Dick Hailwood.

Chaired by Debbie Smith.

1. Apologies: Jen Piggott, Peter Lutzeier, Richard Scott, Roger Coates, Huw Evans, David Hewlett, Verity Camden, Nicola Percival, Val Lilwall, Paula Crawford.
2. Minutes from previous meeting: The minutes were approved and to be signed off.
3. Matters Arising: There were none arising.
4. Annual Report This was adopted.
5. Finance: there is £15,278.41 in the Charity's account. Report by Roger Gill (RG). Proposed by Debbie Smith (DS). Seconded by Bob Cross (BC).

6. Election of Officers:
  - a) Honorary Chairman: Vacant. To be filled
  - b) Honorary Treasurer: Roger Gill (RG). Proposed by Steve Utley. Seconded by Bob Cross.
  - c) Honorary Secretary: Mary Walter (MW) to continue in post. Proposed by Steve Parker (SP) and seconded by Andy Spanjers (AS).
  
7. Election of nine Trustees: The following were elected to serve as trustees: Ian Bodell, Bob Cross, Rod Ellis, Roger Gill, Nicola Percival, Debbie Smith, Steve Utley, Mary Walter, Rob Williams. John Robinson agreed to stay on for a short period to assist in hand over of the accounts to Roger Gill. Proposed by Colin Pavey (CP) and seconded by Maureen Sullivan (MS)
  
8. A.O.B:

Dave Sutton (DS) proposed a vote of thanks for John Robinson who had held post of Treasurer for 16 years. There was also a vote of thanks for Andy Tatchell for holding post of Chairman for the last three years.

Rod Ellis proposed that SU takes on becoming apiary manager for the Holme Lacy apiary. SU happy to take on the job.

Colin Pavey: asked what differences exist for the trustees now that HBKA is a Community Interest Organisation (CIO).

- Under previous framework all Trustees were joint and severally liable if HBKA went bankrupt or if a liability claim was made against HBKA.
- Trustees are required to act responsibly and could still be taken to court/imprisoned if acting fraudulently.

Alan Jenyon: asked if risk assessments had been carried out for all LAN apiary meetings.

- MW has drawn one up previously. To be reviewed and amended as necessary.
- AS: All visitors/members should have contact details taken at LAN meetings, and asked if they would like Piriton etc to be provided if deemed necessary.
- Steve Parker: Risk Assessments require annual review and signing off even if no amendments are made. To be checked at next committee meeting.

The meeting closed at 19.35pm

Signed.....Date.....

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# ANNUAL REPORTS

## 2021 – 2022

### VICE-CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

After another year filled with uncertainty and unexpected events, I sincerely hope that beekeepers and their bees have come through in good health.

While Covid was still prevalent we took a cautious approach to in person meetings. With more known about virus transmission, outdoor apiary sessions were deemed to be of low risk, and we held several sessions in the East LAN and at Holme Lacy and Weobley. The beginners' course went ahead on Zoom, followed by meeting the bees at Holme Lacy. Several members successfully undertook the Basic Assessment and were given helpful preparation by Colin Pavey.

Online events, Zoom meetings and webinars again provided a rich variety of interesting and informative events accessible from wherever we are. Committee meetings took place on Zoom. We held our AGM on Zoom, less enjoyable than attending in person, but it fulfilled our legal requirement. Steve Utley has organised regular question and answer sessions on Zoom and these have been well attended and informative. Other associations have opened their meetings to us, and there have been various BBKA offerings including the Spring convention. The lectures on the National Honey Show website are generally very interesting and presented by internationally renowned speakers. A big thank you to Mike and Pauline Healey for hosting the hog roast in September. It was a lovely afternoon and there was a good turnout with beekeepers again allowed to mingle and enjoy the splendid cooking, and lovely views of the river.

2021 was a difficult season. We had a cool damp spring, with frosts on several nights in April. The spring honey crop was very poor compared to the previous year. There were few good days in the summer and a disappointing summer crop. The poor weather led to reduced success in queen mating, resulting in queenless or drone laying colonies. The lack of honey processing activity in the hive seemed to lead to a tendency an increase in swarming, and it was difficult keeping the bees under control. The warm damp autumn made winter preparations challenging, bees tending to raise brood rather than storing winter feed. Varroa levels were high going into winter, with winter bees susceptible to viral problems.

I hope 2022 will be a better year for all of us, bees and beekeepers alike.

Debbie Smith

# SECRETARY'S REPORT

Unfortunately, the ongoing pandemic led to the cancellation of many of our usual events during the year. The 2021 AGM was held over Zoom. The Beginners Course was also conducted over Zoom, but it is difficult establishing a rapport with new beekeepers over the internet. Luckily, restrictions eased in time to allow practical sessions in person at the apiary. The Three Counties Show was cancelled once again and we did not manage to hold a Honey Show, but we did participate in the Big Apple event at Much Marcle in October.

We held online sessions regularly over the summer, ably organized by Steve Utley. In April Martin Hann and Clare Densley of Buckfast Abbey gave us an interesting talk on swarming. In May we had a Zoom session on the National Honey Monitoring scheme by Anna Oliver and Claire Carvell. Jim Vivian-Griffiths joined us online in June with a fascinating insight into the research of Tom Seeley and Martin Lindauer, who discovered the strategies used by honey bees when searching for a new home. Martin and Claire gave us another talk in December on pheromone communication, and again in February with helpful tips on preparation for the new season. We joined the L&DBKA in the autumn with talks by Chris Park and John Haverson, and in January with Zoom talks by David Bonner on the Bees Abroad project in Uganda, and by Dan Basterfield on Queen raising.

A big thank you to all those who helped during another difficult year looking after the Association bees. Kirsten Ellerby has made a splendid job of the monthly newsletter, and Steve Utley has kept us in order on Zoom and up-to-date with the on-line meetings. He also ably copes with his duties as membership secretary.

Hopefully, the virus is now in retreat and there are no further nasty surprises in store. I look forward to meeting our new members in person and wish them every success in their beekeeping career. It is not easy, but when things go well can be incredibly rewarding.

It was with great sadness that we learnt of the death of two long standing Committee members: Wendy Cummins served as secretary for many years. She was unfailingly reliable and helpful. John Harley applied his technical expertise and attention to detail as Membership Secretary, and was an expert in preparing prize winning exhibits for the honey show.

Mary Walter

# MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

In 2021, things have been thankfully, getting back to normal. Although we have lost several long term members, due to various reasons, we have had a steady increase in the number of beginners taking up beekeeping. I hope they keep going and enjoy it as the rest of us do.

Five years ago, when I started as Membership Secretary, we had 140 Full members; last year we had 172 Full members. The total number of hives insured last year for our Full members was 965 (three years ago it was 754).

## **Listed here are the 2021 figures**

- **Full Membership numbers increased to 172**
- **Associate Membership numbers slightly up at 38**
- **Partnership/Junior Membership steady at 6**

**Total Membership for 2021 - 216.**

Tuesday meetings got back to normal at our Training Apiary in Holme Lacy. We regularly had 10 – 16 members, split into four groups, helped through inspections by four experienced beekeepers. It was pleasing to see new beekeepers/beginners regularly attending and learning how to look after bees.

We continue to do the Zoom meetings, with Clare and Martin from Buckfast being our favoured presenters. Each presentation is well attended and members have said how they find them really interesting and many have learned something from them.

Once a month we have our virtual beekeeper meetings; these have proved popular with beekeepers of all levels of experience. Many were able to get advice on any problems they may have encountered and it was a chance to listen to different views, methods and experiences.

Steve Utley

# HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT 2021

Most of you will be aware that the great majority of each member's subscription goes to the BBKA to fund their activities, including providing members with limited third party insurance and paying for the BBKA magazine. Another big chunk goes to Bee Disease Insurance Ltd to cover members against the risk that their colonies will have to be destroyed because of a notifiable disease. What is left comes to the HBKA.

Allowing for one payment that was outstanding at the end of the year, and for 2022 beginners' training course fees paid in advance, during 2021 our current assets improved by £1,550 to £18,152. However, we have estimated that the value of our equipment at the beginning of the year, mainly sheds, hives and bee suits, depreciated by £2,500 during the year.

Our cash position is good and would allow us to fund running costs for a significant period. We may look at a number of initiatives this year to increase spending on both training and equipment.

Our expenses in 2021 were slightly reduced by the absence of meetings in person. The online Zoom sessions have been well attended, and we have had some good feedback. The costs have been modest, so this has proved to be good value

Both the North LAN and the Holme Lacy apiaries produced a surplus of honey which has added to our income.

We made a small profit on sales of members' honey and wax at the Big Apple show.

The Big Apple event was also the first outing of our new system for taking card payments. This was initiated partly as a result of aversion to cash during the pandemic, but the system is something that we will continue to use.

Our biggest single expenditure this year has been replenishing our stock of bee suits and containers in which to keep them. Let us hope that this coming season we will be able to encourage more visitors to our meetings and make best use of these suits.

**Insurance:** In addition to the cover we get from the BBKA, the Association takes out a small policy each year to cover the potential loss or destruction of our assets, mainly apiary equipment. However, following the demise of an arrangement between the BBKA and its insurance broker, we no longer have cover against third party liabilities to non-members attending our meetings. This is a serious matter. Although we take all appropriate precautions, including making risk assessments and have paid £480 for first aid training in 2021 for several members in order for at least one them to be present at each meeting, this remains a significant issue.

This concern about insurance constraining our ability to carry out the charitable purpose of the Association is echoed by many of the other beekeeper associations in England, which have the same problem. We have raised this with the president of the BBKA and I have engaged with another insurance broker to see if we can solve this both for our association, but also for other associations. For the moment, we must continue to be aware of this risk, and take it into account when setting up our meetings.

Roger Gill

## Herefordshire Beekeepers Association

Financial Activities				
	January - December 2021		January - December 2020	
	Total		Total	
<b>Income</b>				
Subscriptions		5,765.95		6,048.30
<b>Big Apple Income</b>				
Big Apple Honey Sales Income		778.31		
<b>Total Big Apple Income</b>	£	<b>778.31</b>		
<b>LANS Income</b>				
NLAN Income		1,030.00		
<b>Total LANS Income</b>	£	<b>1,030.00</b>		
Hog roast		82		
<b>Training Apiary Sales</b>				
Training Apiary Sales - Bees				100.00
Training Apiary Sales - Honey		220.00		727.05
<b>Total Training Apiary Sales</b>	£	<b>220.00</b>	£	<b>827.05</b>
Training Course Fees		1,435.00		0.00
<b>Total Income</b>	£	<b>9,311.26</b>	£	<b>6,875.35</b>
<b>Total</b>	£	<b>9,311.26</b>	£	<b>6,875.35</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>				
<b>Admin</b>				130.05
Admin Consumables		126.23		
Admin Fees (inc 1st aid trng)		510.00		
Accounting SaaS fees		144.00		96.00
<b>Total Admin Fees</b>	£	<b>654.00</b>	£	<b>96.00</b>
	£	<b>161.50</b>		<b>88.74</b>
<b>Total Admin</b>	£	<b>780.23</b>	£	<b>314.79</b>
Advertising/Promotional		354.00		233.98
BBKA Capitation		3,318.00		3,045.50
Bee Diseases Insuranc		698.45		588.00
<b>Big Apple Show Expenditure</b>				
Big Apple Show Fees		8.00		
Big Apple Show Honey Purchases		585.45		
<b>Total Big Apple Show Expenditure</b>	£	<b>593.45</b>		
Computer Costs		95.99		
HBKA Meetings		27.00		245.00
Insurances		158.09		40.75
Online meetings and training		279.49		136.34
<b>ELAN</b>				
ELAN Running Costs				48.00
<b>Total ELAN</b>			£	<b>48.00</b>
<b>NLAN</b>				
NLAN Capital Spend		65.80		141.58
NLAN Running Costs		117.00		84.00
<b>Total NLAN</b>	£	<b>182.80</b>	£	<b>225.58</b>
<b>SLAN</b>				
SLAN Running Costs				63.29
			£	<b>63.29</b>
<b>Training Apiary</b>				
Training Apiary - Capital Spend		707.73		702.94
Training Apiary Consumables		41.00		271.45
<b>Total Training Apiary</b>	£	<b>748.73</b>	£	<b>974.39</b>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	£	<b>7,397.73</b>	£	<b>5,915.62</b>
<b>Net Operating Income</b>	£	<b>1,913.53</b>	£	<b>959.73</b>
Interest on savings	£	47.10	£	46.88
<b>Net Income/(Expenditure)</b>	£	<b>1,960.63</b>	£	<b>1,006.61</b>
2022 training fees paid in advance	£	1,300.00		
Hog roast accrual	-£	410.00		
<b>Depreciation</b>	£	<b>2,500.00</b>		

<b>Herefordshire Beekeepers Association</b>					
<b>Changes in Assets 31st Dec 2020 - 31st Dec 2021</b>					
<b>Cash position:</b>					
			<b>31-Dec-21</b>	<b>31-Dec-20</b>	
	<b>Lloyds Bank</b>		7660.25	£5,603.30	
	<b>Monmouthshire BS</b>		10512.82	£10,465.72	
	<b>PayPal</b>		1689.11	£532.53	
					increase
			£19,862.18	£16,601.55	£3,260.63
less accruals	Hog roast payment		410		
	2022 trng fees		1300		
					increase
<b>Current assets</b>			<b>£18,152.18</b>	<b>£16,601.55</b>	<b>£1,550.63</b>
<b>Other assets</b>					
For insurance purposes, these are valued at replacement cost					
			<b>31-Dec-20</b>	Depreciation*	additions
	Cups		2500	0	
	Boilers/extractors		1100	-220	
	Microscopes/projector		500	-100	
	Apiaries		7600	-1520	125
	Gazebo,display materia		1050	-210	
	Library		750	-150	
	Bee suits		1500	-300	648
	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>15000</b>	<b>-2500</b>	
				*20% pa declining balance	

**HEREFORDSHIRE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION**

England & Wales - Charity number 1174917

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# Accounts

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**Herefordshire  
Beekeepers'  
Association**

**ANNUAL GENERAL  
MEETING**

**7.30pm March 18th,  
2021**

**AGENDA, MINUTES AND  
REPORTS**

**THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
of the  
**HEREFORDSHIRE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION**

will be held on

Zoom  
on

Thursday 18th March 2021

THE MEETING WILL COMMENCE AT 7.30 pm

**AGENDA**

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the meeting held on 13th July 2020
3. Matters arising.
4. Adoption of the Annual Reports.
5. Finance.
6. Election of nine Trustees. Under the constitution the three longest serving trustees are required to resign every year. These are Robert Cross, Deborah Smith and Mary Walter. If requested they are prepared to stand for re-election.
7. Election of Officers:
  - a) Honorary Chairman
  - b) Honorary Treasurer
  - c) Honorary Secretary
8. Propostion: That from the renewal date in 2022 there should be an increase of £2 in the Annual Subscription, taking it to £32 for three hives. This reflects the £2 increase in the BBKA capitation fee.
9. Any Other Business

***Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity:***

Ian Bodell	
Robert Cross	
Rod Ellis	
Roger Gill	Treasurer
Nicola Percival	
Deborah Smith	Vice Chairman
Stephen Utle	Membership Secretary
Mary Walter	Secretary
Robert Williams	AHAT Coordinator BBKA Delegate

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON  
July 13th 2020 by Zoom.**

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Attendees: Andrew Barnes, Andy Spanjers, Andy Tatchell, Steve Utle, David Pealing, Dave Sutton, Maureen Sullivan, Colin Pavey, John Robinson, Debbie Smith, Bob Cross, Kath Cross, Ron James, Rob Williams, Nicola Percival, Rihards Krauze, Mary Walter, Ian Bodell, Steve Parker, Val Watson, Tony Mitcheson, Judi Thomas, Ann Shawcross, Alan Jenyon, Jeanie Sherwood, Roger Gill, Rod Ellis, Tony Ravenhall, Dick Hailwood.

Chaired by Debbie Smith.

1. Apologies: Ellen Davies, Diane Kent, Len Dixon, Russell Sutcliffe, Nicky Whitaker and Wendy Cummins
2. Minutes from previous meeting: The minutes were approved and to be signed off.
3. Matters Arising: None arising.
4. Annual Report to be adopted.

5. Finance: there is £15,278.41 in the Charity's account. Report by John Robinson (JR) adopted. Proposed by Debbie Smith (DS). Seconded by Bob Cross (BC).
6. Election of Officers:
  - a) Honorary Chairman: Vacant. To be filled
  - b) Honorary Treasurer: Roger Gill (RG). Proposed by Steve Utleby. Seconded by Bob Cross.
  - c) Honorary Secretary: Mary Walter (MW) to continue in post. Proposed by Steve Parker (SP) and seconded by Andy Spanjers (AS).
7. Election of nine trustees: Ian Bodell, Bob Cross, Rod Ellis, Roger Gill, Nicola Percival, Debbie Smith, Steve Utleby, Mary Walter, Rob Williams. John Robinson to stay on for a short period to assist in hand over to Roger Gill. Proposed by Colin Pavey (CP) and seconded by Maureen Sullivan (MS)
8. A.O.B:

Dave Sutton (DS) proposed a vote of thanks for John Robinson who had held post of treasurer for 16 years. There was also a vote of thanks for Andy Tatchell for holding post of chairman for the last three years.

Rod Ellis proposed that SU takes on becoming apiary manager for the Holme Lacy apiary. SU happy to take on the job.

Colin Pavey: asked what differences exist for the trustees now that HBKA is now a Community Interest Organisation (CIO).

- Under previous framework all trustees were joint and severable liable if HBKA went bankrupt or if a liability claim was made against HBKA.
- Trustees are required to act responsibly and could still be taken to court/imprisoned if acting fraudulently.

Alan Jenyon: asked if risk assessments had been carried out for all LAN apiary meetings.

- MW has drawn one up previously. To be reviewed and amended as necessary.
- AS: All visitors/members should have contact details taken at LAN meetings, and asked if they would like Piriton etc to be provided if deemed required.
- Steve Parker: Risk Assessments require annual review and signing off even if no amendments are made. To be checked at next committee meeting.

The meeting closed at 19.35pm

Signed.....Date.....

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# ANNUAL REPORTS

## 2019 – 2020

### VICE-CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

After a year filled with uncertainty and unexpected events, I sincerely hope that beekeepers and their bees have come through in good health.

Whilst Covid locked everyone down, beekeepers were fortunate to be able to visit their apiaries and enjoy the bees, swarm collection continued with appropriate measures in place, and our bee inspectors were able to continue their work.

In-person meetings, and the accompanying companionship, learning from informal chat, and, of course, cake, were sadly not possible. LAN meetings, the annual Beginners Course, the Three Counties Show, our own Honey Show and other educational and social events were cancelled.

But as one set of doors closed, others opened. Online events, Zoom meetings and webinars have provided a rich variety of interesting and informative events accessible from wherever we are. Committee meetings first took place on conference calls, then more pleasantly on Zoom. The AGM went online, and was completed very efficiently so that poor internet connections did not affect it, and with excellent attendance. Association meetings and Buckfast talks on Zoom have been superb, reflected in up to 80 people joining in at one time. Many thanks to Steve Utey and Mary Walter who have put in much work to make this possible. Other associations have opened their meetings to us, and there have been various BBKA offerings including the Spring convention. All of this, and other online content, have provided an extraordinary range of advice and interest at our fingertips, keeping us well occupied throughout.

The bees meanwhile made the most of the fine spring weather, and I and many others had a bumper spring crop of honey. In my case my bees decided this also offered excellent swarming conditions, and with time at home to observe them I decided to let a couple of colonies go their own way. It is exciting to stand in the middle of a swarm as it swirls around, and it was very interesting in one case to witness bee indecision as clusters formed and broke up at various locations before the swarm returned from the hive whence it came, while I was mid inspection - presumably the Queen had stayed at home. The later part of the year brought colder and wetter weather, so there was generally a poorer summer honey crop for the beekeeper, and it was more challenging for the bees to gather sufficient stores for the cold winter.

During this past year I, for one, have realised how much I appreciate seeing my beekeeping friends, and have felt blessed in having my bees to occupy, interest and entertain.

May 2021 be a good year for all of us, bees and beekeepers alike.

Debbie Smith

# SECRETARY'S REPORT

The bees carried on regardless of Covid restrictions and luckily regulations allowed us to attend to our out apiaries during lockdown, as bees count as livestock. The bees had a good Spring season, benefiting from the wonderful weather in April and May, although the weather was not so kind later in the summer, and the summer honey crop was rather disappointing.

We had very few swarm callouts, maybe local beekeepers managed their swarm control better than usual, or fewer people contacted us when seeing a swarm. Fortunately the Asian Hornet did not make an appearance in our region, so the Action Team was not required to step into action. Climate change does seem to be affecting bee behaviour. It seemed that the warm wet autumn led to the bees carrying on brood rearing well into winter, and autumn feed was converted into brood, rather than stored for the coming season.

Unfortunately the ongoing pandemic led to the cancellation of most of our usual events during the year. The 2020 AGM was held over Zoom, the Beginners Course and Three Counties Show were cancelled, as was the Honey Show, which we had hoped to hold as an outdoor event.

Online we had a steep learning curve and Zoom came to the rescue. We held online sessions regularly over the summer, ably organized by Steve Utley. We have also benefited from online talks by Martin Hann and Clare Densley of Buckfast Abbey, and joined forces with Ludlow and District Beekeepers' Association to hear a very informative talk, "Rational Varroa Control" by Professor David Evans of St Andrews University.

A big thank you to all those who helped during this difficult year looking after the Association bees. Kirsten Ellerby has made a splendid job of the monthly newsletter, and Steve Utley has kept us in order on Zoom and up-to-date with the on-line meetings. I hope the coming year will gradually see educational and social events once more allowed, and we will be able to get back to meeting each other and exchanging bee related chat, tea and cake.

Mary Walter

## **HONORARY TREASURERS REPORT 2020**

Having taken over as honorary treasurer at the 2020 AGM, may I express my thanks to my predecessor John Robinson, not only for all the work he has done over many years, but also for the help he has given me in the transition.

Inevitably 2020 has been a different year for the finances. We have had fewer costs associated with holding physical meetings and no costs for holding a training course, but we have also had less income from training fees and honey sales. Thus we have ended the year with a thousand pounds more than when we started.

As in previous years, the majority of the income we receive from subscriptions goes on the BBKA capitation fee and the costs of Bee Disease Insurance. This year the online meetings and training sessions have proved excellent value, judging by the attendance and by the feedback. We have transferred the accounts onto an online accounting system. Our attempts to obtain a little professional assistance both in preparing the accounts and giving them an outside view, have been thwarted by so many bookkeepers having reduced capacity and extra business as a result of the pandemic. Even tempting them with honey could not persuade them. We hope this year to get the benefit of an independent look at the 2021 accounts.

Owing to administrative issues associated with transfer of authority for HMRC, we have yet to claim gift aid for income from 2019. With these now resolved, this should be achievable for both 2019 and 2020.

Planning and budgeting has been almost fruitless when we do not know when we will next be able to hold meetings in person. Nevertheless, the Association is securely placed financially, and thought could be given to investing in more facilities and benefits for our members. This might be in the form of enhancements to the training apiary, securing the freehold to the training apiary, or providing more equipment.

The trustees will consider these opportunities, looking to implement them once we have a clearer view of when we will all be able to meet in person.

**Roger Gill**

<b>Herefordshire Beekeepers Association</b>		
<b>Financial Activities</b>		
<b>January - December 2020</b>		<b>2019*</b>
	<b>Total</b>	
<b>Income</b>		
Subscriptions	6,048.30	5320.08
<b>Training Apiary Sales</b>		
Training Apiary Sales - Bees	100.00	
Training Apiary Sales - Honey	727.05	
<b>Total Training Apiary Sales</b>	<b>£ 827.05</b>	
Training Course Fees	0.00	1400
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>£ 6,875.35</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 6,875.35</b>	
<b>Expenditures</b>		
<b>Admin</b>		
Admin	130.05	
<b>Admin Fees</b>		
Accounting SaaS fees	93.00	
<b>Total Admin Fees</b>	<b>£ 93.00</b>	
PayPal Fees	89.74	
<b>Total Admin</b>	<b>£ 314.79</b>	
Advertising/Promotional	233.98	
BBKA Capitation	3,045.50	3010.5
Bees Disease Insurance	589.00	570.5
<b>ELAN</b>		
ELAN Running Costs	49.00	
<b>Total ELAN</b>	<b>£ 49.00</b>	
BBKA Meetings	245.00	
Insurances	40.75	342.72
<b>NLAN</b>		
NLAN Capital Spend	141.58	
NLAN Running Costs	84.00	
<b>Total NLAN</b>	<b>£ 225.58</b>	
Online meetings and training	133.34	884.44
<b>SLAN</b>		
SLAN Running Costs	63.29	
<b>Total SLAN</b>	<b>£ 63.29</b>	
<b>Training Apiary</b>		
Training Apiary - Capital Spend	702.94	369.18
Training Apiary Consumables	271.45	1213.7
<b>Total Training Apiary</b>	<b>£ 974.39</b>	
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>£ 6,916.82</b>	
<b>Net Operating Income</b>	<b>£ 958.53</b>	
Interest on savings	40.98	
<b>Net Income/(Expenditure)</b>	<b>£ 1,005.81</b>	<b>381.56</b>

\*figures for 2019 not all directly comparable, owing to change in accounting systems

<b>Cash position:</b>			
		<b>31-Dec-20</b>	<b>31-Dec-19</b>
	<b>Lloyde Bank</b>	£5,603.30	£4,851.62
	<b>Monmouthshire B&amp;B</b>	£10,485.72	£10,418.84
	<b>PayPal</b>	£532.50	£324.20
		£16,621.52	£15,594.66
<b>Other assets</b>			
For insurance purposes, these are valued as last year			
	Cups		2500
	Boilers/extractors		1100
	Microscopes/projector		600
	Apiary		7600
	Gazobo, display materials		1050
	Library		750
	Bees suits		1500
	<b>TOTAL</b>		‘5000

# MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

2020, it is fair to say, was not a year any of us were expecting. Lockdown occurred very soon after the beekeeping season really got going. Caring for your bees was considered an exemption from the rules which made things slightly easier. I think many of us spent more time with them than we otherwise would have, maybe this is why a large number of members have renewed in 2021 with more hives than in 2020. Membership was very slightly down from the previous year, this is probably explained by the fact we had to cancel the beginners course so there were much fewer beginners joining us.

**Listed here are the 2020 figures** (compared to 2019)

- **Full Membership slightly up at 161** (from 159)
- **Associate Membership dropped to 33** (from 41)
- **Partnership Membership to 5** (from 6)
- **Junior Membership to 2** (from 1)

**Total Membership for 2020 - 201 members** (from 207).

Physical meetings obviously had to be cancelled so, as with many other Associations, we turned to virtual meetings via Zoom. Previous to this many of us hadn't ever heard of Zoom let alone experienced it, as the year progressed more and more of us were getting to grips with it. We started with virtual beekeeper meetings and these proved popular with beekeepers of all levels of experience. Many were able to get advice on any problems they may have encountered and was a chance to listen to different views, methods and experiences. In November we had our first presentation on Zoom, this was given by Clare & Martin from Buckfast Bees at Buckfast Abbey in Devon, it was a huge success and we continue to book more presentations.

Steve Utley