

# CBKA Yearbook 2020



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# Editor's report

LOOKING BACK I realise that I am starting this year's report the same as last, in that I hope you are all well and surviving the pandemic and lockdown, and I hope that you have been able to look after your bees okay. This yearbook contains the CBKA reports for 2020, and it is rather shorter than usual. The Annual General Meeting had to be postponed last April, and still remains on hold until social distancing is eased. The Committee agreed to keep their current positions and continue to work on behalf of the members until the AGM and elections can take place. Therefore, there are no meeting minutes in this yearbook as there would normally be. Covid-19 also meant that talks other than on-line, training sessions, assessments, outside events and the honey show all had to be cancelled for 2020. The one-day seminar did take place in March, just before the first lockdown, and was well-attended despite the imminence of Covid-19. For the latter half of the year however, with the wonderful organisation of Sally and her team, we have had some brilliant online talks, as outlined in the report. There are more excellent talks lined up, so keep looking out for details.

I am again pleased to have served the year as CBKA editor, including editing and sending the e-bulletins, and thank all those who supplied articles and reports through 2020. However, the number of CBKA News articles sent in during the year was disappointingly few; without members writing and sending in more articles there is insufficient for regular issues. So, once again I would ask that if you have any possible contributions for CBKA News, no matter what length, do please keep sending them in. With less to do to look after your bees during winter, and the current lockdown, some of you will hopefully have time to write. Maybe write a report on a particular online talk, since not everyone gets to see them; the talks are mostly recorded, so you can go back and listen again to make it easier to write, and I am always happy to check, edit or even help to write an article.

With our own beekeeping, Pam and I started 2020 with six hives going through winter, but lost one from isolation starvation when there was a cold snap. Because bees are regarded as livestock, we were still able to collect swarms, with social distancing, and so were able to replace the colony in May and back to six through the year. The bees had swarmed from a colony

in someone's chimney and it seemed they weren't used to building comb in straight lines and kept building comb at all angles in the brood box, despite having foundation frames! Honey production was erratic again, with three hives producing large amounts of honey and two only producing a small amount, but the final honey crop was good, at twice the previous year. We have left a super full of honey/sugar syrup immediately above the brood box in each hive, and put Candipolline on each, so hopefully can avoid starvation this year. For a couple of days in early January, there were bees flying out from each hive, so keeping fingers crossed.

Despite lockdown, insects are unaffected and we need to guard against Asian hornets again. Also, Bee Inspectors can continue inspections, with social distancing, so if you think you have infection problems in any of your hives do continue to contact them for advice. Here's hoping that lockdown conditions improve as we go through the year and I wish you all well and that you have a successful 2021 season with your bees.

Peter Bates

# Chairman's Report

2020 WAS NOT a memorable beekeeping year with regard to events and activities – in fact it was quite the opposite. As I write this in January 2021 my bees are shielding in their hives from the sub-zero temperatures, whilst we are locked-down as a result of a significant spike in Covid-19 cases. This brings into perspective for me the meaning of life, beekeeping, the universe and everything!

January 2020 started with little awareness of what was to come. There was a healthy attendance for the CBKA beginners course, expertly organised by Stephen Poyser and ably assisted by CBKA members, including the Committee and apiary managers. My thanks go to Stephen and his volunteers for organising the course despite the disappointment of not being able to continue with the practical aspects of beekeeping due to the coronavirus pandemic.

By March 2020 the lockdown had struck and we entered the 'virtual' world of beekeeping, though looking after our own bees was allowed as management of livestock. Social distancing put paid to any apiary teaching for beginners. The CBKA Committee meetings moved to being held on-line and I wish to thank all of the Committee for their continued support and dedication to our shared and continued focus on beekeeping.

Because the usual talks programme was cancelled, Committee member Sally Knowles and several volunteers put together an excellent series of regular on-line talks, with speakers of national and international repute. Memorable for me was the example of the legendary Professor Tom Seeley lecturing from his new rural home in Maine, USA. Also our own member, Jack Silberrad, entertained us with an excellent talk about his time in New Zealand working with a Manuka honey bee-farmer. The talks have had a large attendance when compared with our face-to-face meetings, along with positive feedback. Once again my thanks to the work of Sally and the volunteers.

Rather than now listing what else didn't take place in the 2020 CBKA season I will instead briefly reflect on two of my own personal beekeeping experiences in 2020. My bees are in my garden apiary and, therefore, little affected by the Covid restrictions. I buy 'thoroughbred' queens from UK breeders rather than collecting swarms. A significant lesson for me has been

with Carniolan queens. I was attracted to these because of several positive characteristics of being gentle, productive and their rapid build-up in the early season. However, when rearing my own queens from these foundresses I have faced highly aggressive F1 queens, which has been a real issue for me. Some of you may know that I once suffered anaphylactic shock from a bee sting, and was desensitised successfully at the Addenbrooke's bee (and wasp) sting clinic in Cambridge. Hence, calm bees are a key focus for my beekeeping and we should not tolerate aggressive bees as they are both a nuisance and potentially dangerous for the beekeeper and neighbours. I therefore spent most of the 2020 season sacrificing the F1 hybrid queens and replacing these with Buckfast queens. This was managed through a number of nucs and uniting of hives to keep to 3 hives in my home apiary. On a positive note, I was satisfied with a good honey yield of around 90 lb.

My other new 'trial' is that of using the less time-consuming ~13 kg blocks of baker's fondant, rather than feeding with syrup to prepare my bees for winter. This came about following a virtual talk by Professor David Evans and also following his excellent on-line forum (The Apiarist – <https://www.theapiarist.org/tag/fondant/> ). I tracked down a local baker to secure the large blocks and, as I write this report, my hives, as hefted today, are heavy with stores for the bees.

I conclude my report by again advising that the CBKA Annual General Meeting has been postponed until later in 2021, due to the current circumstances, and encourage you to keep reading the regular CBKA ebulletins as well as the web-site for future details. This reminds me to thank our CBKA editor Peter Bates for his work in collating and sending out the ebulletins as well as newsletters. I am sure that he won't mind me using this opportunity to ask any beekeeper reading this report to send him articles, photos or anything beekeeping-related for the newsletter.

Finally, I cannot close without thanking again the Committee, the Apiary Managers (Stephen Poyser, Bill Block, Roy Cross and Jonathan Baynes) and all CBKA volunteers for their continued support. I sincerely hope that you all enjoy a safe and enjoyable 2021 beekeeping season.

Dr J Paul Schofield

# Membership Report

THIS HAS BEEN a very difficult year for everyone. However, this has not affected our membership numbers, which are higher than they have been for some time. Below are the final membership numbers for 2020 with the comparative numbers for 2019.

Year	Ordinary	Associate	Honorary	Partner	Companion	Junior	Total
2020	402	28	6	61	22	19	538
2019	446	29	5	64	23	19	586

We are anticipating a reduction in membership during 2021 because of the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic on our activities. It meant that we have been unable to support our 2020 beginners in the way we would have wished and, without the beginners' course in 2021, there will automatically be a reduction in new members. We have also been unable to attend any events and our opportunity to educate and enthuse the public about beekeeping has not been available.

There could be an increase in Associate members in 2021, because we are encouraging non-members who want to attend our spectacularly popular programme of talks, via Zoom, to join as Associates and many have already done so.

Subscription rates remain unchanged for 2021, but we are expecting an increase in the fees paid to BBKA in 2022.

Martin Kendall is continuing his work on the CBKA website and will be including an online application form with an automatic receipt issue. It is possible to access the membership form on the website, without needing to login to the Members' area, and payment by PayPal is available and extremely popular. You do not need a PayPal account to pay but please remember to send me your application form, either by post or electronically, at the same time as you make a payment.

Finally, once again I would like to thank John Rayner for his continued computer support.

Elizabeth Cox

# Secretary's Report

As I LOOK through the 2020 folder in my CBKA email account, it strikes me how routinely the year started, with the usual plans and optimism for the coming season. This optimism was maintained throughout January and the early part of February. Then one by one came notifications of cancellation of the numerous events, national and local, that mark the passage of the beekeeping year. There would be no CBKA presence at fairs and shows, no Honey Show, no talks given to schools and groups by the newly formed Outside Talks group and no practical sessions for the 2020 beginners. With the Charity Commission permitting a more relaxed schedule, the CBKA's Annual General Meeting was also cancelled for the time being and the Committee members who had been elected for a year in 2019 agreed to continue in office for as long as necessary.

By the end of March, the entire country was in lockdown. Fortunately for us beekeepers, tending to livestock – including bees – was one of the legitimate reasons to leave the house. The CBKA asked members to volunteer to look after the bees of those who were shielding or unwell, and I would like to thank the volunteers who responded to this call and generously offered their help. However, Cambridgeshire beekeepers are apparently a hardy lot and there have been few requests for assistance. Nevertheless it was heartening to read the emails of the volunteers and (as I write), with the end of the third lockdown still not in sight and the weather improving, it's good to know that this support network could still spring into action if necessary as the new beekeeping season approaches.

The CBKA Committee meetings were successfully moved online and Committee business continued almost as usual. The CBKA Talks programme found a new home on Zoom. Although the Talks audiences have been unable to enjoy sharing the customary post-talk refreshments and gossip, they have had the opportunity to hear and watch presentations from some well-known and highly-respected beekeepers and researchers whom it would otherwise not have been possible to persuade to make the journey to Cambridge – one of the few benefits of the lockdown. What's more, moving online has allowed the talks to reach a far wider, indeed global, audience, and allowed us to connect and learn despite the restrictions of the last year.



Humans may have been in lockdown, but the bees were not. As the sun shone and temperatures rose during an exceptionally bright and warm spring, the public continued to contact the CBKA with reports of swarms and bees (not always honeybees) in inappropriate places. Many thanks to all those CBKA members who stepped up and offered practical help or reassurance, either in person, where it was safe to do so, or remotely by phone or email.

Despite the lockdown, the annual purchase and distribution of Apikel winter syrup went ahead; many thanks to Ross Lilley and Matt Lambon Ralph for the heavy lifting, transport and distribution and to Martin Kendall for providing a simple yet effective booking system for timed slots which ensured that collection proceeded smoothly and safely within Covid guidelines.

Finally, I would like to remind you all that I often get requests from the general public for local honey – particularly during hayfever season. If you would like to be contacted when someone in your area is looking to buy honey or wax – drop me an email with the approximate location of your hives and I'll add you to the list.

Wishing you all much success for the coming beekeeping season!

Susan Wilkie, CBKA Secretary

# Beginners' Course Report

THIS HAS BEEN the most trying and difficult year for anyone wanting to take up beekeeping and the most frustrating year for those of us wanting to pass on our knowledge of beekeeping. It all started off so well, with a full class of 90 students enrolled on the course, including 1 junior; the initial course of 8 lectures passed off without too much concern and details were obtained to confirm who wanted help making their hive and who wanted to attend the practical sessions, and contact details of the bee buddies were circulated.

Then it all fell apart as a result of Covid-19 as lockdown resulted in the hive making having to be cancelled, the practical apiary sessions could not proceed due to social distancing and vulnerable bee buddies were self-isolating or not willing to meet others. This resulted in the beginners having little or no practical apiary training or experience, with little chance to call anyone in to physically help if they had a problem. So, the message went out to them not to get bees this year and, if possible, delay it until 2021. We were subsequently unable to hold the beginners Autumn lecture and it looks as if the last lecture, due in early 2021, will also have to be postponed. It was subsequently agreed not to hold a Beginners Course in 2021, but to concentrate on providing the missing back-up to the students of the 2020 Beginners' Course, if at all possible.

What this year has shown is that although the theory of beekeeping is very useful, and reading books helps, there is actually nothing as good as the practical information and support that you pick up whilst attending apiary sessions and talking to experienced beekeepers. This was borne out by me receiving many calls during the summer from beginners who already had bees, or had ordered them and could not cancel the order, and then having issues with accidentally killing the queen, not understanding the brood nest, swarm control, trying to extract honey, preparing the hive for winter, etc. So the 2020 Beginners Course will hopefully recommence in the spring of 2021 when again help will be offered to those who have yet to build their hive and a full sequence of practical apiary sessions will be offered hopefully at the CBKA apiaries at either Wandlebury or Impington. This will be followed by the Autumn lecture on "Harvesting, varroa control and preparation for winter" and the final lecture in Jan 2022 on "What to do next".

The postponement of the 2021 course for a year (78 names already on the

list) has undoubtedly upset some potential attendees, but hopefully they understand the need for us to complete the 2020 course before embarking on another; our apiaries and teachers cannot support the sheer number of potential beekeepers requiring practical training.

Many thanks to all the people who assisted in the aspects of the completed part of the 2020 course, which included IT expertise, manhandling chairs and PA equipment and the giving of lectures. More help will be required in 2021 with hive making, providing nuc's of bees and giving both time and expertise with the practical sessions. so please let me know if you are willing to be involved in any of these, otherwise I will be forced to contact the faithful regulars who I know want to share the roles wider.

Although it is repetition, I want to emphasise that this year has shown how vital it is for beginners to obtain practical training. Therefore, when you are re-joining the CBKA please seriously consider offering to help a beginner (or let me know you are willing to be a bee buddy) otherwise some beginners will flounder with the hobby and will either give up or keep bees and potentially cause problems for other beekeepers in their area.

Stephen Poyser, Beginners' Course Coordinator

# Talks Working Group Report

THE TALKS WORKING Group is made up of a small number of us who, in previous years, have got together in an informal manner over soup and other exciting beverages to discuss and agree a programme of talks and then share out the responsibilities in terms of confirming dates, contacting speakers and preparing for the talks themselves. As we know, 2020 did not go quite to plan and we were all thrown into the world of zoom and online talks. I have to admit, I believe one of the positives from this pandemic is that we have been able to reach not only speakers from all over the world and invite them into our sitting rooms, but also many other beekeepers and interested parties worldwide, and not just our own members in Cambridgeshire. I personally could not have done any of this without the other members of the Talks Working Group and the mentoring and help we received from Lynne Ingram of Somerset Beekeepers.

We are always looking for new people to join the group, and if you are interested please do contact me. Please also feel free to send us any reviews of talks that you have attended and if you have any ideas for future speakers. We cannot always promise to deliver, but will try our best.

So, here are some short reviews of some of the talks we had online during 2020. We haven't reviewed all of them, but every one was a great success. Some of the talks were recorded and we encourage you to watch them. They are behind the member's area of our website <https://www.cbka.org.uk/>

The Talks Working Group: Sally Knowles, David Abson, Peter Connor, Alison Goodfellow, Alex Hirtzel, Martin Harnor, Robin Lea, Karen Lee, Susan Wilkie.

## **Tasks of Worker Honey Bees – Professor Jamie Ellis on 22 July**

We enjoyed a fascinating talk by Dr Jamie Ellis, the Gahan Endowed Professor of Entomology in the Entomology and Nematology Department, University of Florida. Jamie explained that it is useful for every beekeeper to have a general understanding of both honey bee and colony biology. This helps us as beekeepers because we already know what we want to accomplish, but if we also understand what the bees are trying to accomplish, we can work to harmonise these together.

Jamie explained that a colony's goals are the same as any other organism

– to survive and reproduce. Swarming is how honey bees reproduce at the colony level, and this is a natural urge of the honeybee, despite us, as beekeepers, often wanting to discourage it. We learnt about the stimuli that drives a colony to swarm and how we can look out and recognise some of the signs that the bees are preparing for this. These include resource availability, longer warmer days, drone abundance, congested nests from a population explosion, lack of open brood cells, and dilution of the queen pheromone, aging queen and the production of new queens. Jamie talked us through all of this, explaining what to look out for when we inspect our colonies; for example, a large increase in the number of drone cells is an early sign, and later there will probably be ten or more queen cups prepared by the bees. As beekeepers, we need to be vigilant early in the year because swarms that occur in early spring apparently have the best chance of long-term survival. This was a thought provoking talk that included information on the latest research into honeybees, and provided information useful to all beekeepers, both beginners and more experienced.

Lal Goodfellow, member of the Talks Working Group

### **Preparing for winter – Professor David Evans on 12 August**

As anyone familiar with David Evans’ “The Apiarist” blog would expect, his well-timed talk on preparing for winter was an enjoyable and very informative event. David is a virologist and some of his work focuses on deformed wing virus (DWV) and chronic bee paralysis virus (CBPV) in bees. He keeps his own bees in several apiaries across Scotland. As well as producing a weekly blog, he is currently the “agony aunt” for BBKA News, answering readers’ questions on a wide range of beekeeping topics.

David gave general guidance on the preparations beekeepers should make to avoid colony losses over the winter. He discussed practical solutions for combining and feeding colonies and precautions against a number of threats, including robbing by bees and wasps, attacks by mice and other animals, flooding and cold, but in line with his view that the biggest problem facing bees is disease, much of his talk dealt with when and how to best treat bees for varroa. As the vector of viruses, the varroa mite, if left unchecked, is a more likely factor than any other in colony loss.

David outlined his own treatment regime, which is the result of considerable experience, solid research and good sense, but emphasised that

awareness of local climate was necessary to get the timing right. He advocates earlier treatment than generally recommended, at the end of the summer, in order to ensure that the colony goes into the winter with a healthy number of disease-free winter bees. The audience asked many questions that David answered with patience and his trademark humour. Both novice and more experienced beekeepers went away feeling that, without really noticing, we had absorbed a lot of very helpful information that would prove invaluable in the months to come.

Susan Wilkie, CBKA Secretary and co-opted member of the Talks Working Group

### **The Bee Colony as a honey factory – Professor Tom Seeley on 19 August**

This was a wonderful and most informative talk given by Professor Seeley, mainly about the dances that bees do to recruit more foragers and more ‘unloaders’. He showed a number of videos that sadly did not come out too well from Maine via Zoom, but they can all be found on YouTube. It was exciting to be in the presence (albeit virtually) of one of the leading speakers about honeybees. Tom is having a ‘research bee barn’ built in his backyard, and has kindly agreed to speak to us again in June on the Craft of Bee hunting; possibly we might get a glimpse of his finished barn.

Sally Knowles, CBKA Committee and member of the Talks Working Group

### **Preparing Honey for show – Dale Gibson on 23 September**

What does it take to be a “Best in Show”? Dale Gibson showed us the planning and meticulous details that can go into preparing for a best in show. I was particularly impressed with his attention to detail and care for cleanliness in extraction. Another great speaker.

Robin Lea, member of the Talks Working Group

Dale Gibson left a career in stockbroking to start Bermondsey Street Bees. He took a beekeeping course in 2006 under the Queen’s beekeeper John Chapple. Today, Bermondsey Street Bees has eighty hives and a thriving consultancy business that helps commercial firms, such as Soho Farmhouse and Berkeley Homes Group, design and maintain sustainable apiaries. The honey, which has won countless awards, is used by top-name restaurants, including Hakkasan, Kerridge Bar & Grill and Roux at The Landau.

I particularly liked the following comment, noted among the information attributed to him. *'You have a responsibility as an urban beekeeper to raise calm bees.'*

David Abson, CBKA Committee and member of the Talks Working Group

### **Buckfast to Buckingham Palace – Richard Rickett on 30 September**

Richard Rickett has been co-editor of Beecraft, along with Stephen Fleming, since January 2020. He keeps about 30 colonies of his own bees, as well as a few for other people. He runs beekeeping courses, but most of all really enjoys meeting and learning from other beekeepers. He is particularly interested in the history of beekeeping, books and photography.

David Abson, CBKA Committee and member of the Talks Working Group

### **The Astonishing power of bees to change people's lives –Nicola Bradbear on 28 October**

Dr Nicola Bradbear, from Bees for Development, spoke to us about the charity and the work that it does. The charity <https://beesfordevelopment.org/> is based in Monmouthshire, but has a global reach, and works both in the UK and with some of the very poorest communities to teach the skills of local beekeeping, whilst at the same time supporting ecosystem integrity. Currently, the main centres of focus are Somalia, Sierra Leone, Ethiopia, Uganda and Tobago. In these areas, Bees for Development have local representatives who teach, using local materials and techniques, how to become a beekeeper and earn a sustainable living. The results have been remarkable; it has changed the lives of many and they have worked with very diverse groups, including people who have a disability and those who have turned from poacher to beekeeper. It is a remarkable charity and well worth the warm reception and generous support Nicola received from CBKA.

Alex Hirtzel, member of the Talks Working Group

### **My life as a manuka honey farmer – Jack Silberrad on 11 November**

Jack worked variously as a microbiologist, teacher and sales representative. He then completely changed direction, from suits to boots, and was in his final year as an apprentice honeybee farmer with the London Honey Company. Jack is also one of Cambridgeshire's Seasonal Bee Inspectors. Over the next few years he intends to begin refining and breeding queens, raising

nuclei, and producing even more honey. As part of his apprenticeship, and also to broaden his experience, Jack travelled to the mountainous alpine region of Tasman, outside Murchison, New Zealand, where he was hosted by the Manuka Island Honey Company. This talk was all about his time there.

David Abson, CBKA Committee member and member of the Talks Working Group

### **Beekeeping in Brittany – Richard Noel on 25 November**

It was good to hear from Richard Noel, who is an expat beekeeper living in Brittany. To hear about the challenges of coping with a different climate and his views on Asian Hornets was particularly noteworthy. Hopefully, we can hear more from him in the future.

Robin Lea, member of the Talks Working Group

### **Sustainable Beekeeping – Mike Palmer on 9 December**

Mike Palmer, of French Hill Apiaries, bought his first two packages of bees from FW Jones Company of Quebec in 1974; they cost \$10.50 delivered. Neither colony made it through the first winter, but he kept trying and built up to 200 hives by 1981. In 1982, Mike got a job managing the bees owned by Chazy Orchards in Chazy, New York, and did so until 1986. Then he convinced Chazy to sell their bees to him, so at that time, he had more than 600 colonies. Mike began raising his own queens in 1998, and has been doing so ever since. Today, Mike raises about 1200 queens and manages over 1000 colonies, with some 600-700 production colonies and hundreds of nucleus colonies.

David Abson, CBKA Committee member and member of the Talks Working Group



# Wandlebury Apiary Report

THE 9 COLONIES taken into the winter at the end of 2019 were: 7 in National brood boxes (1 in double brood boxes), 1 in a Dartington Hive and 1 in a 14 x 12 brood box. The winter was fairly uneventful, although a woodpecker made a tentative attack on one hive even though it was protected by strips of polythene sheeting. The very mild winter resulted in me being unable to treat the hives with Oxalic Acid to reduce any level of varroa mites before the bees started to produce any brood. One of the National hives dwindled away in the early spring, which was probably as a result of a failing queen because there was plenty of stores still in the brood box, but otherwise all the other hives came through the winter in good condition.

The inability to treat the hives with oxalic acid did not result in a significant number of varroa being found during the year, so it appears the varroa treatment given in the autumn of 2019 was successful, since only one hive needed treatment during the summer. All hives were treated with Apistan (pyrethroid-based insert) in the autumn of 2020.

During the coming winter it is again intended to give the hives a treatment of oxalic acid (by the trickle method), if the weather permits, in an attempt to ensure the colonies start the year with as few mites as possible. In the early spring of 2020, the colonies were fed fondant icing as an insurance against starvation and Candipolline as a pollen substitute to boost brood production. This again proved worthwhile as the colonies were strong by the late spring so it is intended to use Candipolline again in the spring of 2021. Then along came Covid-19 and this really messed up my involvement with the apiary as I needed to self isolate; however, Lesley Fletcher kindly took on the role of apiary manager until the autumn when I resumed, following her need to withdraw from the position. During the summer we kept in touch and she was able to control the production of queens whilst adding more supers, as required.

Covid also prevented the apiary being used for any beginner training, practical apiary meetings (PAMs), examinations or the requirement for a stocked observation hive for use by the education team of wardens at Wandlebury. During the summer, several colonies created replacement queens but no additional colonies were created, so we ended the year with 8 hives: 6 in National brood boxes (1 as brood and a half (with a super on)), 1 in a Dartington Hive and 1 in a 14 x 12 brood box.

European Foul Brood (EFB) was found to the south of Cambridge in the summer, which resulted in the hives needing to be checked by the seasonal bee inspector, but I am pleased to report no EFB was found. EFB was again found within the notification area in October, but I had already been through the hives and closed them down for winter; it was agreed they would be left and I would again check them as soon as possible in the spring of 2021.

The hives had all collected a reasonable amount of stores during the autumn, but they were still fed syrup (in an attempt to stop them storing ivy honey), treated against varroa with Apistan, and given mouse guards and woodpecker protection before winter. A check on the weight of the hives will be carried out at regular intervals during the winter and, if required, packs of fondant icing will be added to the hives. If normality resumes in 2021 and the hives are of sufficient strength, it is my intention to split some colonies and restock the WBC, whilst ensuring there are enough good colonies for beginners to carry out inspections and manipulations. As a result of Lesley's management during the summer (or possibly the weather or the inability of the hives to be used for beginner training), this year has resulted in a good crop of approximately 400 lb of honey, which will be sold to supplement the CBKA's bank account.

It is intended to undertake further work in and around the shed and the apiary during 2021 to improve them for both the bees and the attendees. I am very thankful to Lesley Fletcher and Bill Clark for their help during the year, because without them the apiary would not be anything like the shape it currently is in. If you wish to be involved in helping with Wandlebury in 2021, please contact me. I again intend to use the time for a combination of sharing information and spreading the load of looking after the CBKA interests at Wandlebury, whilst enjoying beekeeping.

Stephen Poyser, Wandlebury Apiary Manager

# Impington Apiary Report

DURING 2019, FROM April to September, European foul brood (EFB) was found in eight colonies and the apiary went into winter still under an APHA (Animal and Plant Health Agency) Standstill Order. Anecdotal evidence suggests that EFB may be present in a hive but not show symptoms in larvae during inspections. One method used by the National Bee Unit to eradicate EFB is to shook swarm the live bees into a clean hive with new frames and foundation, and then burn the old frames from the brood box and supers. To try and eradicate EFB from the apiary, we decided to follow this advice by burning all the super frames after honey extraction, thoroughly scorching the super boxes and shook swarming all the hives in spring 2020 into clean hives.

All thirteen colonies in the apiary had been treated with Apistan in the autumn of 2019 and were fed with syrup to build up stores for the winter. One colony did not survive the winter. Early in 2020, the farm barns at the apiary were thoroughly cleaned, benches set up and CBKA volunteers (Lesley Fletcher and Charlie, Andy Hartley, Mary Shemilt, Steve Smith, Alison Goodfellow, Peter Dawson, Barbara Maurice and Colin Bell) attended frame-making parties on 18 January and 1 February, or took frame kits home to help make up the 220 brood and 300 super frames that were needed to shook swarm the colonies in the spring and manage the hives during the year.

Twelve complete clean replacement hive kits were prepared ready in the shed with new frames and five keen CBKA members volunteered to help shook swarm the entire apiary, burn all the frames and scorch all the hive equipment hopefully in one day, on 24 March 2020. That day will probably be etched on your memory as the first day of the first Covid-19 lockdown, so the full apiary shook swarm was cancelled the night before – ‘best made plans...’

Following advice from DEFRA and APHA that livestock and bees still needed to be managed during the lockdown, the two apiary managers agreed on a safe plan to continue inspecting the hives and managing the apiary. Fortunately the Impington apiary has hives spaced well apart so we could easily keep away from each other, while using our own dedicated tools, clothing and equipment. Only the two apiary managers and the Seasonal Bee Inspector, Jonathan Baynes, attended the apiary during the entire year. Obviously no beekeeper training took place at the apiary during the 2020 season.

The apiary managers decided to continue with some shook swarming, prioritising hives with old comb, and managed to get seven out of the twelve colonies into new hives by 14 April. Colonies that had started on new foundation in clean hives in 2019 were not shook swarmed due to constraints on time and working restrictions. Some colonies survived the shook swarm well and drew out foundation quickly, while others failed to build up. Syrup was continually fed to the colonies until the brood foundation had been drawn out. At least one queen was lost during the shook swarm process.

Unfortunately, after all these efforts EFB was confirmed in an un-shook colony on 6 May. No EFB was found in a full inspection on 19 June, but was confirmed in another un-shook colony on 21 July and again in a shook swarmed colony on 31 July; these three colonies were destroyed. No EFB was found at the last full inspection on 15 September. We remain hopeful that in 2021 the apiary will remain disease-free, but doubt if we will be able to host any training events in the spring due to the Covid-19 restrictions.

During 2020, six hives produced 160 lb of honey, considerably below the 4-year average of 360 lb for the apiary. The number of colonies was reduced during the year from thirteen to seven, two being rather small. Losses were due to EFB (3), and queens failing to develop or colonies failing to build up after shook swarming. All remaining hives have been treated with Apiguard and fed with syrup.

As in 2019, thanks must go to Jonathan Baynes for all his help, advice and patience through 2020, as well as assistance with scraping and scorching hives from diseased colonies. The Association again remains grateful to Chivers Farms Ltd for their continued support of the apiary at Bedlam Farm, Impington.

Roy Cross & Bill Block, Impington Apiary Managers

# Bourn Apiary Report

FOLLOWING THE GOVERNMENT instruction to lock-down, the Bee Improvement Group (BIG) Queen Rearing was not going to happen at Bourn in 2020. Therefore, Michael Wilton-Cox and I decided that we would concentrate on building up the apiary. Having more queen rearing colonies was something that we had planned and really needed. However, splitting colonies for increase, while producing colonies to build queen cells from grafts, never seemed to work fully.

We ended the year with seven colonies going into the winter, putting us in a good position if, and when, we can start queen rearing in 2021. My thanks again to Michael for his assistance.

The forage in the Bourn area was not particularly good this year. The neighbouring fields were wheat and barley. However, I took off 90 pounds of honey, which seemed fair for just a couple of production hives, under the circumstances.

While I was spinning the honey out, I noticed it had a quite an unpleasant smell, almost 'farmyardy'. Undaunted, I finished off the extraction then tasted it. Not only did it smell like a farmyard, but it tasted a little like silage. I sent off a sample to the UK Honey Monitoring Laboratory and await to hear what they had to say about it. Stephen Poyser and Hamish Symington, who are paragons of good taste, tried it and both turned their noses up in disgust. I tried it on Peter Kastelewicz, CBKA's 'Polish ambassador for beekeeping'. Peter, who was brought up in Poland, recognised it immediately as buckwheat – and apparently quite a connoisseur's honey. It apparently mellows with age!

The Regional Bee Inspector, Keith Morgan, also recognised it as buckwheat, and through him I was able to find a buyer and achieve 'triumph out of tragedy' and CBKA's coffers were suitably enhanced.

So, the moral of the story? Like Marmite, if you do not like the taste of your honey, there is probably someone who thinks it is a delicacy! Now to track down the source of the buckwheat ready for this next year.

Jonathan Baynes

# CBKA Equipment Use

RECORDED BORROWING OF CBKA equipment from the Wandlebury bee-shed for the period 2012 to 2020 is as shown below. The only thing that will show how the pandemic affected beekeepers in 2020 is the 0 in the Virtual Hive column:

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2107	2018	2019	2020
<b>Extractors</b>	67	86	119	85	79	106	79	65	85
<b>Pratley trays</b>	30	53	55	34	39	52	39	35	38
<b>Honey tanks</b>	12	11	27	13	24	25	18	13	17
<b>Wax melter</b>	5	1	1	2	1	1	2	2	2
<b>Easi-steam</b>	2	3	1	0	0	10	1	4	1
<b>Virtual hive</b>	-	-	7	2	7	9	5	7	0
<b>Creamer-paddle</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
<b>Candle moulds</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2
<b>Apimelter</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7

This is not a comprehensive list, because some items were borrowed without being signed out; some items in years prior to 2020 were out for many months as a single booking (e.g. virtual hives for events and several series of talks).

Having been through the equipment in the bee-shed, we decided one extractor was beyond repair and has been disposed of, while Bill Clark needed to undertake repairs to 5 of the extractors during the year. However, as a result of generous donations by former members in 2020, we have acquired two further extractors and a settling tank for use in 2021. The CBKA purchased an Apimelter in early 2020, to enable members to melt honey and wax from frames that have solidified, and it is pleasing to note this significant expenditure has been justified by its use.

Please remember that when returning a Pratley tray you should ensure the electric lead, wax filter and uncapping board are also returned; several of these items failed to be returned during the year. Also, as a result of there being 3 different leads, it is essential you take the correct type when you borrow a Pratley tray, otherwise you will have had a wasted journey!

In addition to the items listed above, do not forget the CBKA also have filters, an electric uncapping knife, an uncapping tray and wax processing equipment,

including a solar wax extractor, which can be borrowed if required.

Regrettably, the cleanliness of some of the equipment when it is returned still leaves something to be desired; please make sure you return it in a state you would want to find it and return it a.s.a.p. after you have used it, as you can be certain other members want to borrow it at the same time as you do.

The access track to the bee-shed has a gate and chain; the CBKA has fitted a combination padlock in the centre of the padlock/ padlock / padlock sequence to enable the CBKA members, other authorised users and the Wardens, to use the track without the need for them to issue keys to all the authorised users and the CBKA. If you borrow items from the bee-shed please ensure to lock the gate correctly so that all the authorised users can open the gate without bothering another party. During 2020 some members have yet again locked our padlock solely to the chain, which meant the Wardens were unable to use the track until we had reset the CBKA combination padlock to link the other padlock to the Wardens padlock.

The bee-shed is fitted with movement sensors to switch the lights on and off, so do not try to find the switch to switch the lights off when you leave. Do please make sure you lock the bee-shed door.

**In order to borrow equipment you will require both the gate padlock code and the new door code, the door code will be changed in early 2021. Please keep borrowed equipment for as short a time as possible (7 days as a maximum) as it is inconsiderate to other CBKA members for anyone to have equipment out for a long period of time.**

When you have borrowed an item from the bee-shed, if you find that something is broken or if it breaks whilst you are using it, please inform us. In this way, repairs can be implemented before somebody else takes the item home only to find they have had a wasted journey. In an attempt to ensure only members of the CBKA use the equipment, when you contact us for the codes, you may be kept waiting on the phone whilst your 2021 membership details are checked – even though we may recognise your name.

Please ensure you book the equipment out and back in when appropriate, on the note-pad hanging adjacent to the extractors, and please write clearly and legibly because we need to know who you are. In 2021, please be considerate of other members if you borrow any equipment and return things promptly and clean.

Stephen Poyser and Bill Clark, Wandlebury Equipment Coordinators

# In Spectacles... SBI Report

TRUE STORY... A school pupil was discussing the text he was studying for GCSE English Literature with my wife. The student said it was “N Spectorculs”. My wife looked bemused and replied, “In Spectacles? I’ve not heard of that book”. So, very patiently, the youth tried again “Nah, not ‘In Spectacles’... ‘An... Inspector... Calls.” Hence the new ‘by-line’...

Unlike many occupations, the Bee Inspector’s work carried on, more or less, unchanged by Covid-19. Honeybees, being regarded by the government as livestock, need to be cared for regardless of the lockdown. The only restriction imposed was that we could not carry out inspections where access to the hives involved passing through a house.

As far as bee diseases are concerned, 2020 was a fairly ‘normal’ year. We had our fair share of European Foul Brood (EFB) in the Eastern Region. Early in the year, the staff at the Food and Environmental Research Agency (FERA) laboratory had managed to sequence the DNA of the principal strain of EFB found in the Cambridge area (called ST37). There are at least two other strains in Cambridge, but this one dominates.

The delay in establishing the strain type was because it was previously unknown and unique to Cambridge. Working on a bank of archived historical samples, FERA were able to show the first instance of it came from Histon in 2015. Sadly in 2020, the ST37 strain spread from its previous stronghold in north Cambridge, down to south Cambridge. Worse was to come, because late in the season, it was found to have leapfrogged to Norfolk. The investigation is on-going as to how it got there.

Another disease that seems to be increasing in the UK is Chronic Bee Paralysis Virus (CBPV). I found several instances of this last year in the Cambridge area, including one of my own hives. It is not a notifiable disease, but it does result in a high mortality of bees, leaving a huge pile of bee carcasses below the entrance. Currently, there is no cure, and the remedies are not always successful. The bees, more or less, have to get over the ailment themselves. Having good biosecurity to prevent its spread, when you have multiple hives, is most important.

This year, my inspections took me from the great seats of learning in Cambridge, to large bee farms in Essex, to the Military Correction and Training Centre in Colchester, and of course to the many hobby beekeepers



who keep just a few hives. The places and people where hives are found are very varied, and that makes the job most interesting. Very occasionally there are hives that cannot be inspected – here is one I politely declined on health and safety grounds. While keeping ‘log hives’ in a wood and away from other beekeepers is not going to cause too much of a problem, siting one in central Cambridge would not be a good idea!



Some Inspectors were unable to work as they were in the ‘Covid-vulnerable’ category, so I did some cover down in North London. While it was interesting to see a different area, I am very glad not to have ‘congested London’ in my patch.

Towards the end of the season, I spent a few weeks triaging reports of suspect sightings of the Asian Hornet from the Non-Native Species Secretariat. I am pleased to say, not only did I not find any, but the total number of sightings in the UK in 2020 was down from the previous year.

Many of you will remember Fred Daynes who retired at the end of 2019 after nine years as a Seasonal Bee Inspector in the Peterborough and Cambridgeshire region. We are fortunate that his position has now been filled by CBKA’s own Jack Silberrad. In this coming year, Jack will be covering the city of Cambridge. My area will now extend further southwards because there is a need for more inspections down in Essex caused by an EFB outbreak that occurred in 2020.

My thanks again to everyone who allowed me to come and see their bees under the trying Covid-19 conditions. So far, 2021 seems to be going down the same route as this last year, but if I do not see you in the coming year, I know you will be in good hands with Jack.

Jonathan Baynes, Seasonal Bee Inspector

# Treasurer's Report

WHILST 2020 WILL be remembered as a challenging year in many respects, I am pleased to report that the Association remains financially robust, with net income for the year of c. £7,200. Indeed, the fact that the Association was unable to host or attend as many events and activities as previous years, reduced its outgoings, while the principal sources of income – membership subscriptions and the Beginners' Course – were unaffected by the pandemic. I believe that the full effect of the pandemic on the Association's finances will be felt in the current year, when there will be no Beginners' Course and it remains unclear when, or whether, other events will resume. However, this is expected to be a short-term reduction in income and the Association is fortunate that it has sufficient reserves to enable it to fulfil its charitable objectives for the foreseeable future.

## Summary of income and expenditure for 2020

The table overleaf summarises the income and expenditure in 2020 and 2019, categorised by each source of income and its associated costs, with further detail below.

### Income

The CBKA derives its income from the following sources:

- 1. Members' subscriptions and donations:** The largest source of the CBKA's income is subscriptions and donations. The total received from members, including amounts they paid for additional BDI insurance and the Beekeepers' Quarterly journal, was c. £17,000, up from 2019 due to an increase in the Association's membership during the year (the annual subscription rates being the same for 2020 as 2019).
- 2. Educational activities:** The second largest source of income for the CBKA is its educational activities, comprising:
  - The Beginners' Course
  - The Improvers' Course
  - The One-Day Seminar
  - Other events, such as the Bee Disease Day, the annual coach trip and the Annual Dinner

Total income from the above was c. £7,300 in 2020. The equivalent income

		2020			2019 (*)		
		Inc.	Exp.	Net inc.	Inc.	Exp.	Net inc.
		£	£	£	£	£	£
1	From / on behalf of members	17,019	(11,388)	5,631	15,570	(10,418)	5,152
2	Educational activities	7,288	(5,827)	1,461	10,615	(9,505)	1,110
3	The sale of products	1,329	(36)	1,293	5,432	(2,686)	2,746
4	Other income, including GiftAid	4,514	-	4,514	3,026	-	3,026
5	Running the Association's apiaries	-	(2,470)	(2,470)	-	(3,024)	(3,024)
6	Running the Association	-	(2,243)	(2,243)	-	(2,661)	(2,661)
7	Grants to research organisations	-	(1,000)	(1,000)	-	(1,000)	(1,000)
		30,150	(22,694)	7,186	34,643	(29,294)	5,349

(\*) On a pro-forma basis as if the “new” CBKA had existed for the whole of 2019

in 2019 was significantly higher because it included income from events that did not take place in 2020, namely the annual coach trip (£1,100), the “Bee Disease Day” (£600), and the Annual Dinner (£1,500). The Beginners’ Course in 2020 was very well attended, generating c. £1,350 more than in 2019, but this was offset by lower attendance at the One-Day Seminar where ticket sales generated c. £1,500 less than in 2019.

3. **The sale of products:** All of the events that the Association was scheduled to attend in 2020 were cancelled, and so the Association sold no honey from either its own apiaries or from members, to the public. The Association did sell some bulk honey to members, and once again sold surplus wax from its apiaries to BeeBee Wraps

- 4. Other income:** The CBKA received c. £3,400 in GiftAid, an increase on 2019 due to the additional membership. GiftAid remains a very welcome supplement to the Association's income, and effectively funds the day-to-day administrative costs of running the Association. This enables the Committee to channel all of the income from members and the Association's other activities into its charitable activities. I therefore encourage all members who are able to take advantage of GiftAid to do so on their membership renewal forms.

The Association also received donations of £1,150 during the year, significantly higher than in 2019. The Trustees are grateful to those members making such donations.

## **Expenditure**

Expenditure during the year related to:

- 1. On behalf of members:** The majority of the subscriptions paid by members is actually paid across to organisations such as the BBKA, BDI and Beekeepers' Quarterly. These costs were c. £1,000 higher than 2019, reflecting the increase in the number of members as noted above.
- 2. Educational activities:** Expenditure on educational activities relate primarily to room hire and speakers' fees for the Beginners' and Improvers' Courses and our talks programme, together with the cost of the annual coach trip, Bee Disease Day and Annual Dinner. Total costs were significantly lower than in 2019, because the latter events were not held this year. Although the vast majority of the talks programme was held online, the cost of Zoom licences and higher speakers' fees meant that the overall cost of the talks programme in 2020 was similar to that of 2019.
- 3. Products for sale:** No members' honey was sold this year, with only incidental costs incurred.
- 4. Running the Association's apiaries:** The total cost of running the Association's apiaries at Bourn, Impington and Wandlebury, together with related capital expenditure, was down slightly on 2019. The apiary managers and their teams do a wonderful job of managing the apiaries and supporting the teaching and training that we do. I would like to thank them for all of their hard work in 2020, despite the pandemic and dealing with a further outbreak of EFB.

- 1. Running the Association:** Over half of the costs of running the Association are printing and postage, including this Yearbook. Although the cost of hiring rooms was less than 2019, because there was only one face-to-face meeting in 2020 before the first lockdown prevented such meetings, we have incurred additional costs on enhancing our website as online activity has increased. As noted above, GiftAid currently funds these activities, and the Committee constantly seeks to minimise the administrative costs of the Association.
- 6. Research grants:** The CBKA donated the final £1,000 to the current “EARS” project. The Committee is currently reviewing applications for research funding for 2021.

## Reserves

The surplus for the year has increased the Association's reserves to c. £71,000. The majority of the Association's assets are held in cash, and the closing cash balance was c. £71,200. The Committee's policy is to hold sufficient reserves to protect the Association from potential reductions in its future income, whilst also generating the initial funding that would be required to establish a centre of excellence for beekeeping in the Cambridge area. The level of reserves is reviewed regularly by the Committee to ensure that they are adequate, but not excessive, for the Association's current and forecast activities, whilst noting that the costs of a centre of excellence cannot be estimated reliably until a suitable location has been identified and additional funding may be required in future to realise this longer-term ambition.

## Outlook for 2021

The Association's budget for 2021 indicates that the current levels of income will be significantly reduced because:

- Due to the ongoing pandemic the Beginners' Course, the Improvers' Course and the One-Day Seminar have been cancelled for 2021, and any other events such as the annual coach trip or dinner are highly unlikely to proceed either;
- Similarly, the usual shows are unlikely to take place in 2021 and so the Association will have limited opportunities to sell its honey;
- The number of members is expected to drop compared to 2020, because there will be no new members joining for the Beginners' Course in 2021

and experience suggests that many of the 2020 beginners will not renew their membership; and

- The Association was fortunate to receive a significant donation in 2020, which will not recur in 2021.

However, this is expected to be a short-term reduction in income and the Association is fortunate that it has sufficient reserves to enable it to fulfil its charitable objectives for the foreseeable future.

Peter Connor, CBKA Treasurer



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 MP for South-East Cambridgeshire, MP for  
 North-East Cambridgeshire, MP for South  
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**For a full, up-to-date list of Bee Inspectors,**  
**look at BeeBase: <http://tinyurl.com/cxzc8bu>**





# **CAMBRIDGESHIRE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION**

## **ANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE**

## **YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**



# CAMBRIDGESHIRE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

		2020			2019
		Accumulation Fund	Research Fund	Total Total	Total Total
		£	£	£	£
INCOME	<i>From members</i>				
	Subscriptions	13,699		13,699	12,266
	Donations	521	1,265	1,786	1,891
	CBKA Newsletter	270		270	210
	<i>Amounts collected from members for CBKA activities</i>	<u>14,490</u>	<u>1,265</u>	<u>15,755</u>	<u>14,367</u>
	Additional BDI cover requested by members	684		684	603
	Members' subscriptions to Beekeepers' Quarterly	580		580	600
	Total amounts collected from members	<u>15,754</u>	<u>1,265</u>	<u>17,019</u>	<u>15,570</u>
	<i>From educational activities</i>				
	Beginners' training course	4,341		4,341	2,984
	Try-a-hive	-		-	175
	Improvers' training course	560		560	560
	One Day Seminar	2,195		2,195	3,713
	Other courses and events	192		192	3,183
		<u>7,288</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,288</u>	<u>10,615</u>
	<i>From sale of products</i>				
	Honey (on behalf of members)	-		-	793
	Honey (from CBKA hives)	1,055		1,055	3,679
	Polo shirts, badges and ancillary items	274		274	960
		<u>1,329</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,329</u>	<u>5,432</u>
	<i>Other income, including GiftAid</i>	4,240	274	4,514	3,026
	Total income	<u>28,611</u>	<u>1,539</u>	<u>30,150</u>	<u>34,643</u>
EXPENDITURE	<i>On behalf of members</i>				
	BBKA membership	(9,230)		(9,230)	(8,401)
	Bee Disease Insurance	(1,578)		(1,578)	(1,417)
	Beekeepers' Quarterly	(580)		(580)	(600)
		<u>(11,388)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(11,388)</u>	<u>(10,418)</u>
	<i>On educational activities</i>				
	Beginners' training course	(1,759)		(1,759)	(1,554)
	Try-a-hive	-		-	(275)
	Improvers' training course	(457)		(457)	(427)
	One Day Seminar	(2,387)		(2,387)	(3,079)
	Other talks, courses and events	(1,224)		(1,224)	(4,170)
		<u>(5,827)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(5,827)</u>	<u>(9,505)</u>
	<i>On products for sale</i>				
	Honey from members	-		-	(647)
	Preparing and packaging honey from CBKA hives	(36)		(36)	(193)
	Polo shirts, badges and ancillary items	-		-	(445)
	Cost of running the Honey Show	-		-	(823)
	Cost of attending third party events	-		-	(578)
		<u>(36)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(36)</u>	<u>(2,686)</u>
	<i>On running the Association's apiaries</i>				
	Maintenance	(1,423)		(1,423)	(2,398)
	Capital expenditure	(1,047)		(1,047)	(626)
		<u>(2,470)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,470)</u>	<u>(3,024)</u>
	<i>On running the Association</i>				
	Insurance	(384)		(384)	(386)
	Printing and stationary	(1,162)		(1,162)	(1,446)
	Room hire	(65)		(65)	(221)
	Other costs	(632)		(632)	(608)
		<u>(2,243)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,243)</u>	<u>(2,661)</u>
	<i>Grants to research organisations</i>	-	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)
	Total expenditure	<u>(21,964)</u>	<u>(1,000)</u>	<u>(22,964)</u>	<u>(29,294)</u>
NET INCOME		<u>6,647</u>	<u>539</u>	<u>7,186</u>	<u>5,349</u>

**CAMBRIDGESHIRE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION**  
(Registered charity No. 1183601)



**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020**

		2020		2019
		£	£	£
Stock	CBKA badges	124		124
	Jars and other packaging for honey	236		139
	Stock of Polo Shirts	179		179
	Wax for processing	-		-
	Stock of Try-A-Hives	-		-
	Manuals for beginners	188		89
		<b>727</b>		<b>531</b>
Receivables	Prepayment of 2020 / 2019 expenses - Printing	-		37
	Prepayment of 2020 / 2019 expenses - Talks	-		105
	Prepaid Wandlebury licence	150		-
		<b>150</b>		<b>142</b>
Cash	Cash at Lloyds Bank	60,597		60,044
	Lloyds Bank Deposit Account	10,523		10,519
	Float for Cambridgeshire Apiaries events	120		120
		<b>71,240</b>		<b>70,683</b>
Total assets		<b>72,117</b>		<b>71,356</b>
Less creditors	BBKA subscriptions paid in advance	(51)		-
	BDI paid in advance	(9)		(5)
	BKQ subscriptions paid in advance	(200)		(180)
	Beginner's Course fees paid in advance	-		(6,480)
	One Day Seminar fees paid in advance	-		-
	Provision for possible charge for Wandlebury	-		(300)
	Key deposits for Impington Apiary	(20)		(20)
	Other accruals	(626)		(346)
		<b>(906)</b>		<b>(7,331)</b>
Net assets		<b>71,211</b>		<b>64,025</b>
Represented by				
Accumulation fund	At the beginning of the year	59,382		54,488
	Excess of income over expenditure during the year	6,647		4,894
	At the end of the year	<b>66,029</b>		<b>59,382</b>
Research fund	At the beginning of the year	4,643		4,188
	Donations from members during the year, gross of GiftAid	1,539		1,455
	Grants made during the year	(1,000)		(1,000)
	At the end of the year	<b>5,182</b>		<b>4,643</b>
Total Funds		<b>71,211</b>		<b>64,025</b>

**Note to the Accounts.**

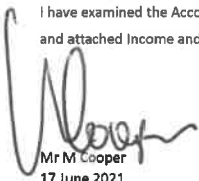
CBKA's accounting policy is to write off against any surpluses, the cost of all capital purchases at the time of acquisition. As a result, the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020 do not show the value of CBKA's fixed assets. In 2016, the assets of CBKA were checked and valued at current prices and CBKA's buildings and contents insurance was updated accordingly. Since then, insurance cover for all CBKA's assets have been revalued annually in line with inflation and are now covered to the values as shown below:

Apiary shed- Wandlebury	£7,490	£7,343
Apiary sheds and outbuildings Impington and Bourn - at each location	£4,779	£4,685
Apiary tools, equipment and accessories - at each location	£38,834	£38,073
Apiary hives and bee colonies (excluding disease - covered by BDI)- at each location	£8,962	£8,786
Trailer, PA equipment and other assets	£18,784	£18,416

  
Peter Connor  
Hon. Treasurer

**Examiner's opinion**

I have examined the Accounts of the Cambridgeshire Beekeepers' Association and, from the records made available to me, I certify the above Balance Sheet and attached Income and Expenditure Account represent a true and fair view of the Association's financial affairs for the year ended 31 December 2020.

  
Mr M Cooper  
17 June 2021



**CAMBRIDGESHIRE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION**

**ANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE**

**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**



# CAMBRIDGESHIRE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

		2020		2019
		Accumulation Fund	Research Fund	Total
		£	£	£
INCOME				
	<i>From members</i>			
	Subscriptions	13,699		13,699
	Donations	521	1,265	1,786
	CBKA Newsletter	270		270
	<i>Amounts collected from members for CBKA activities</i>	<u>14,490</u>	<u>1,265</u>	<u>15,755</u>
	Additional BDI cover requested by members	684		684
	Members' subscriptions to Beekeepers' Quarterly	580		580
	Total amounts collected from members	<u>15,754</u>	<u>1,265</u>	<u>17,019</u>
	<i>From educational activities</i>			
	Beginners' training course	4,341		4,341
	Try-a-hive	-		-
	Improvers' training course	560		560
	One Day Seminar	2,195		2,195
	Other courses and events	192		192
		<u>7,288</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,288</u>
	<i>From sale of products</i>			
	Honey (on behalf of members)	-		-
	Honey (from CBKA hives)	1,055		1,055
	Polo shirts, badges and ancillary items	274		274
		<u>1,329</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,329</u>
	<i>Other income, including GiftAid</i>	4,240	274	4,514
	Total income	<u>28,611</u>	<u>1,539</u>	<u>30,150</u>
EXPENDITURE				
	<i>On behalf of members</i>			
	BBKA membership	(9,230)		(9,230)
	Bee Disease Insurance	(1,578)		(1,578)
	Beekeepers' Quarterly	(580)		(580)
		<u>(11,388)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(11,388)</u>
	<i>On educational activities</i>			
	Beginners' training course	(1,759)		(1,759)
	Try-a-hive	-		-
	Improvers' training course	(457)		(457)
	One Day Seminar	(2,387)		(2,387)
	Other talks, courses and events	(1,224)		(1,224)
		<u>(5,827)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(5,827)</u>
	<i>On products for sale</i>			
	Honey from members	-		-
	Preparing and packaging honey from CBKA hives	(36)		(36)
	Polo shirts, badges and ancillary items	-		-
	Cost of running the Honey Show	-		-
	Cost of attending third party events	-		-
		<u>(36)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(36)</u>
	<i>On running the Association's apiaries</i>			
	Maintenance	(1,423)		(1,423)
	Capital expenditure	(1,047)		(1,047)
		<u>(2,470)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,470)</u>
	<i>On running the Association</i>			
	Insurance	(384)		(384)
	Printing and stationary	(1,162)		(1,162)
	Room hire	(65)		(65)
	Other costs	(632)		(632)
		<u>(2,243)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,243)</u>
	<i>Grants to research organisations</i>	-	(1,000)	(1,000)
	Total expenditure	<u>(21,964)</u>	<u>(1,000)</u>	<u>(22,964)</u>
NET INCOME		<u>6,647</u>	<u>539</u>	<u>7,186</u>

**CAMBRIDGESHIRE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION**  
(Registered charity No. 1183601)



**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020**

		2020		2019	
		£	£	£	£
Stock	CBKA badges	124		124	
	Jars and other packaging for honey	236		139	
	Stock of Polo Shirts	179		179	
	Wax for processing	-		-	
	Stock of Try-A-Hives	-		-	
	Manuals for beginners	188		89	
		<u>727</u>		<u>531</u>	
Receivables	Prepayment of 2020 / 2019 expenses - Printing	-		37	
	Prepayment of 2020 / 2019 expenses - Talks	-		105	
	Prepaid Wandlebury licence	150			
		<u>150</u>		<u>142</u>	
Cash	Cash at Lloyds Bank	60,597		60,044	
	Lloyds Bank Deposit Account	10,523		10,519	
	Float for Cambridgeshire Apiaries events	120		120	
		<u>71,240</u>		<u>70,683</u>	
Total assets		<u>72,117</u>		<u>71,356</u>	
Less creditors	BBKA subscriptions paid in advance	(51)		-	
	BDI paid in advance	(9)		(5)	
	BKQ subscriptions paid in advance	(200)		(180)	
	Beginner's Course fees paid in advance	-		(6,480)	
	One Day Seminar fees paid in advance	-		-	
	Provision for possible charge for Wandlebury	-		(300)	
	Key deposits for Impington Apiary	(20)		(20)	
	Other accruals	(626)		(346)	
		<u>(906)</u>		<u>(7,331)</u>	
Net assets		<u>71,211</u>		<u>64,025</u>	
Represented by					
Accumulation fund	At the beginning of the year	59,382		54,488	
	Excess of income over expenditure during the year	6,647		4,894	
	At the end of the year	<u>66,029</u>		<u>59,382</u>	
Research fund	At the beginning of the year	4,643		4,188	
	Donations from members during the year, gross of GiftAid	1,539		1,455	
	Grants made during the year	(1,000)		(1,000)	
	At the end of the year	<u>5,182</u>		<u>4,643</u>	
Total Funds		<u>71,211</u>		<u>64,025</u>	

**Note to the Accounts.**

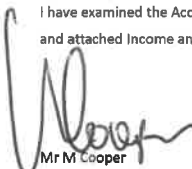
CBKA's accounting policy is to write off against any surpluses, the cost of all capital purchases at the time of acquisition. As a result, the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020 do not show the value of CBKA's fixed assets. In 2016, the assets of CBKA were checked and valued at current prices and CBKA's buildings and contents insurance was updated accordingly. Since then, insurance cover for all CBKA's assets have been revalued annually in line with inflation and are now covered to the values as shown below:

Apiary shed- Wandlebury	£7,490	£7,343
Apiary sheds and outbuildings Impington and Bourn - at each location	£4,779	£4,685
Apiary tools, equipment and accessories - at each location	£38,834	£38,073
Apiary hives and bee colonies (excluding disease - covered by BDI)- at each location	£8,962	£8,786
Trailer, PA equipment and other assets	£18,784	£18,416

  
Peter Connor  
Hon. Treasurer

**Examiner's opinion**

I have examined the Accounts of the Cambridgeshire Beekeepers' Association and, from the records made available to me, I certify the above Balance Sheet and attached Income and Expenditure Account represent a true and fair view of the Association's financial affairs for the year ended 31 December 2020.

  
Mr M Cooper  
17 June 2021