

CBKA Yearbook 2022



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Editor's report

I AM AGAIN pleased to have continued serving as CBKA editor, including editing and sending out the e-bulletins. This yearbook contains the CBKA reports for 2022, when we began to get back some normality and were able to meet in person somewhat more. However, the Annual General Meeting was held online via Zoom in April and the Minutes are included in this yearbook. There were several outside events that CBKA were able to attend during the year, which were very successful for talking with the public and for sales. Several members were also able to give talks to schools and various organisations, and there is a report included about those; there is also a report from our Librarian, who would encourage you all to see what books are available and continue your learning about beekeeping. Once again, there were a large number of online talks, including speakers from around the world, with many thanks to Sally and her team for the excellent organisation; the talks were all very informative and continued to attract large audiences, including many from overseas and a large number of these now join as associate members. Throughout the year there continued to be monthly get-togethers in various pubs around the county, which have been enthusiastically attended and will hopefully continue, so I hope to see some of you at these events.

It seemed a bit of a strange year again for our beekeeping. Pam and I started the year with six hives through winter; a couple of them swarmed very early and the swarms did fine, but the original hives didn't make a new queen and I couldn't get them to re-establish even when I later added a frame of brood and eggs to each, twice for one of the hives. In late summer, the wasps started attacking one of the hives and despite doing things like turning the hive and closing the entrance off for a couple of days, the wasps wiped out the colony; strange how the wasps completely ignored the other two hives in the apiary. In mid-summer a swarm suddenly appeared in an empty hive, but I don't think it was from one of ours, and we ended the year with seven fairly strong hives going into winter. Honey production was better than I expected with such very hot weather, and then there seemed so much ivy honey that I ended up having to take supers off that were full of it; I melted it out and it tastes okay though sets very quickly. I have now put Candipolline Gold above the crown board on all the hives to hopefully get them through winter and

into spring, but have had to put a cage over the Candipolline in several hives though, to stop the mice eating it.

Asian hornets are getting closer, and we need to continue to guard against them. EFB is a big problem around Cambridge, so if you have any concerns do contact the Bee Inspectors, and their details are on the back page and in Jack's report in this Yearbook. I wish you all well and that you have a successful 2023 season with your bees.

Peter Bates

Chair's Report

THE 2022 SEASON saw the return to a more normal year in the post-lockdown era following the severe impact of COVID. There was still a natural reluctance for face-to-face meetings, but careful planning and enthusiasm saw the return of the ever popular CBKA Beginners' Course held at Chesterton Community College on Gilbert Road. I thank Stephen Poyser and several experienced beekeeper volunteers for delivering a comprehensive course, attended by over 80 enthusiastic beginners. The delivered theory was later put into practice at the important practical sessions which this year were at our Wandlebury and Bourn apiaries. Unfortunately, the ongoing impact of European Foul Brood (EFB) at our Impington Apiary meant that this usual venue couldn't be used, and Colin Bell (our Bourne Apiary Manager) stepped forward to help run the practical sessions. Again, I thank several CBKA members, including Stephen Poyser, manager at our Wandlebury apiary, who passed on their practical skills and tips on gentle handling of bees during hive inspection. I was delighted to help out and encourage others to volunteer in the coming 2023 season.

Returning to EFB, this has become a serious concern in Cambridge city area and throughout the county. There is no room for complacency and CBKA takes this very seriously, as we are one of the most severely affected regions throughout the UK. We have invested research funds to understand more about EFB through Professor Giles Budge in Newcastle. Committee member Philip Turon leads on co-ordinating the CBKA research focus, and I want to take this opportunity to thank him for giving up his time to support this. I also want to acknowledge our seasonal bee inspector, Jack Silberrad, who took over from Jonathan Baynes. With the further spread of EFB, Jack has had a huge amount of hive inspection work and I have been really impressed by his enthusiasm, focus, practical advice and pragmatism. He visited my home apiary as part of an NBU-notified concern near me about EFB. I was able to watch him expertly inspect my hives and pass on his observations and experience. I was pleased to receive a clean bill of health, with no evidence of EFB.

I attended an evening talk on EFB by Jack, held in Central Cambridge. It was well attended by over 30 beekeepers, including apiary managers from Huntingdonshire Beekeepers' Association. There was a lively discussion with

many questions, which Jack comprehensively answered. Although this talk can help, I can't help but reflect that the attendees cannot be the only target audience because every beekeeper in Cambridgeshire needs education on EFB identification and best practice if we are going to make inroads into eliminating this devastating bee disease. In 2023, CBKA will have further focus on how and what we can do to drive down the spread of EFB. One immediate concern is spread through swarm collection and distribution. Please look out for future activities regarding EFB in e-bulletins in 2023. However, we must also not forget the threat from the Asian hornet, *Vespa velutina*.

Throughout 2022, Sally Knowles and her volunteer helpers continued to drive the highly successful on-line talks programme. The list of speakers reads like a global "Who's Who" of beekeeping, attracting international associate members to attend from around the globe. Thank you, Sally, and also for your drive of the highly popular Pub Socials.

In Early April, I attended the BBKA Spring Convention held at Harper Adams University in Shropshire. There were diverse lectures and, however long one has been beekeeping, there are always new things to learn about both the theory and practice.

Late in April saw the delayed CBKA AGM being held online. I was concerned with the registration of so few members and up until the last minute we were only just quorate to be able to proceed. I don't understand why, and would love to receive feedback from any members (jpaul.schofield@cbka.org.uk). An important AGM agenda item is the election of Committee members. I was delighted to welcome the election of three new Committee members: Jonathan Baynes, Alison (Lal) Goodfellow and John Hall. I also want to celebrate the huge contribution of David Abson over many years and was delighted to see him elected an honorary member of CBKA, along with John Rayner. John has also made a major contribution to CBKA over many years, being a committee member, educator and long-serving manager of our Wandlebury apiary. I would like to conclude this section by recognizing the contribution of Elisabeth (Liz) Cox, who stood down from her position as CBKA Membership Secretary after several years, handing over the reins to Martin Kendall. She made many significant contributions, including leading the transition of CBKA to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), and we will miss her thoughtful and insightful questions at Committee meetings.

By May the season was in full flow and bees in my apiary were very active. I volunteer to be a bee buddy to new beekeepers and I was pleased to visit their new hives to support them in their first season. Early May saw the first CBKA Stand event at Reach Fair. I recognize and thank the drive and logistics of Hazel Bickle and volunteers, including Pam Fearn and Peter Bates, for supporting the CBKA Stand at events throughout Cambridgeshire in 2022. This is a most enjoyable experience where fellow beekeepers can pass on their knowledge to the general public, including the ever-popular observation hive – oh, and to sell CBKA honey.

Over ten years ago, I had an anaphylactic reaction to a bee sting and underwent desensitization by the excellent medical staff at Addenbrookes' Hospital bee- and wasp-sting clinic. In late June 2022, due to my not fully zipping up my bee suit, several bees stung me around my neck and I suffered my second anaphylaxis, self-injecting with my adrenaline-filled pen into my thigh. I am incredibly grateful for the support from the two beekeepers who were with me, as well as the paramedics and ambulance crew. It was my 'fault', but my reminder here is to all beekeepers to double-check that they are fully zipped up in their bee suit! Bees can get through the smallest of gaps.

July saw soaring temperatures in both the UK and in Europe, though this didn't adversely affect my three hives, leading to well over 100 lb (>45 kg) of delicious honey. I had earlier in the season met another local beekeeper and we agreed to caretake each other's colonies when each of us went on holiday. This was reassuring so as not to worry about possible swarming with potential loss of bees as well as a risk of annoying the neighbours! I encourage beekeepers to form groups, if possible, to both share experience and support each other.

I am currently the external talks co-ordinator and have been delighted to give talks and demonstrations throughout the season, from school children to the Cambridge NHS retirement fellowship. I also thank those members in 2022 who have volunteered and given talks on behalf of CBKA.

The annual CBKA Honey Show at the Quy country fair had been cancelled due to COVID in 2021. In early August 2022 the fair returned. and thanks go again to the CBKA Honey Show Secretary, Hamish Symington, for organising the honey show for CBKA members' entries to be displayed and judged for trophies. This was a significant logistical undertaking by Hamish, with free tickets to Quy fair for CBKA members entering exhibits. There were over 140

entries and thanks also to the show judges, Pam Fearn and all of the many other volunteer helpers for their continued support throughout the (hot) weekend.

In September, Stephen Poyser hosted and organized an introductory evening at Chesterton Community College for potential new beekeepers. This was the same format as in 2021, with a 'sense check' of what is involved in beekeeping, including costs and time, so that attendees could make a more informed choice about whether to sign up to the 2023 CBKA Beginners Course. Thank you, Stephen, and also to several other CBKA beekeepers who helped to make the evening a success.

As the 2022 season drew to a close, I once again used the 13 kg fondant block method per hive made popular by Professor David Evans (<https://theapiarist.org/cut-more-losses/>). December closed with the CBKA annual dinner and awards ceremony at Cambridge Regional College. Thanks here for the organization of this event are mainly to Peter Connor, the CBKA Treasurer. Also, membership renewal has become an online electronic system pioneered by the new Membership Secretary and Webmaster, Martin Kendall. Martin has continued to put in many hours of his IT expertise, both for the delivery of the re-vamped CBKA website as well as the electronic membership renewal. Thank you, Martin!

I conclude my report with my profound thanks to all of those mentioned, but also to all other volunteers not named individually. It is thanks to all of you that we can run the many CBKA activities, apiaries, education, socials and talks programme. For those members who have not yet volunteered I strongly encourage you to do so. We are a friendly bunch and share a love of all things beekeeping! I very much look forward to meeting you in 2023.

At the time of writing, I was informed of the death in early December of Raymond Smith. Ray was a long-standing CBKA member, an expert skep-maker, and a true gentleman. I fondly remember his encouragement, friendly gentle character and patience when teaching me at a skep making class at the Scout hut on Perne Road. You could also often see him demonstrating this medieval craft at many CBKA honey shows. On behalf of CBKA I send our condolences to his widow Bridget.

Dr J Paul Schofield

Membership Secretary's Report

THE MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION/RENEWAL has completed its first year as a self-service process. This has provided a significant benefit in terms of accurate recording of member details and onward processing by related organisations such as the BBKA. Below are the figures for 2022 showing how many registrations and renewals were made between 1 Dec2021 and 31 Dec 2022.

Year	Ordinary	Associate	Honorary	Partner	Companion	Junior	Total
2022	213	94	4	56	n/a	n/a	367
2021	372	168	4	60	21	15	640
2020	446	29	5	64	23	19	586
2019	402	28	6	61	22	19	538

There are no longer CBKA Companion or Junior membership categories being offered in our range of membership types. As an alternative way to welcome children into the CBKA activities, up to two names can be added to each Ordinary category membership at registration time for £2 per child. The names provided are shown on the membership card for the Ordinary category member.

The BBKA subscription rates continue at £21 + £2 basic BDI for Ordinary members. The CBKA website continues to process all membership automatically. However, the PayPal-based payments have been postponed and Stripe has been an excellent replacement due to much better payment card processing. This also allows the sending of online invoices for any incidental payments needed to be made by members.

In order to facilitate members who do not use social media, the CBKA website offers a Forum facility. All members are subscribed to the forum area and can take part in any of the discussion areas provided. There is an option to unsubscribe by anyone who wishes not to take part. For those members who wish to use instant messaging instead of a traditional online Forum facility there is now a members' WhatsApp group. This facility is evolving gradually and the latest details are shown on all membership Account pages in the website.

Martin Kendall

Wandlebury Apiary Report

THE EIGHT COLONIES taken into the winter at the end of 2021 were: six in National standard brood boxes (including one with a super on as brood and a half), one in a Dartington hive and one in a National 14 x 12 brood box. The winter was uneventful, although I was unable to treat the hives with oxalic acid to reduce any level of *Varroa* because the weather proved exceptionally mild in the early part of the year. One of the National hives dwindled away in the late spring, which was probably as a result of a failing queen, but otherwise all the rest of the hives came through the 2021/22 winter in good condition.

The *Varroa* control during the year was successful to such a degree that it proved difficult to find some to show to beginners during their practical sessions. Early in 2023, 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 *Varroa* mites as possible. In the early spring of 2022, the colonies were fed fondant icing as an insurance against starvation and later Candipolline Gold as a pollen substitute to boost brood production. This repeatedly appears to prove worthwhile as the colonies were strong by the late spring, so it is intended to use Candipolline again in the spring of 2023.

European Foul Brood (EFB) was again found to the south of Cambridge, which resulted in me receiving three notifications of it being identified within 3km of Wandlebury, but I am pleased to report no EFB was found at the apiary. The restriction on swarms being brought to Wandlebury (to prevent the spread of EFB) and the lack of swarms at the apiary meant that it was not feasible to provide a stocked observation hive for use by the education team of wardens at Wandlebury. We did use the apiary for the practical sessions for the 2022 beginners, but we did not hold any Practical Apiary Meetings (PAMs); however, it is proposed to reintroduce these in 2023. During the summer of 2022, only one colony was split, to prevent swarming and to replace the earlier loss, and one colony was donated by a member, so we ended the year with nine hives: six in National standard brood boxes (two as double brood boxes), one in a Dartington and two in 14 x 12 brood boxes.

The hives again collected a huge amount of ivy nectar during the Autumn of 2022, but they were still fed syrup, treated against *Varroa* with Apiguard,

given mouse guards and woodpecker protection before winter. A check on the weight of the hives is being carried out at regular intervals during the winter and if required, packs of fondant icing will be added to the hives. I still intend to restock the WBC, whilst ensuring there are enough good colonies for beginners to carry out inspections and manipulations. The colony in the Dartington hive will be moved into a 14 x 12 brood box because the hive requires some remedial work.

The apiary has again had a reasonably productive year and nine supers were removed, which yielded in the region of 190 lb of honey that will be sold to supplement the CBKA bank account. Cambridge Past Present and Future (CPPF), our landlords, undertook some work around the shed and the apiary during early 2022, but further tree felling is anticipated as a result of Ash die back disease affecting an ever-increasing number of trees.

If you would like to be involved in helping with the Wandlebury apiary, 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

EACH YEAR NEW frames need to be made to replace old ones in the hives and, because the honey comb is cut out for extraction (see below), about 200 – 260 super frames need rewaxing, a considerable task. During February, CBKA members who had attended the Improvers' course helped at two Saturday morning frame-making parties. They were enjoyable mornings; the apiary managers are extremely grateful for this help and plan to hold similar parties in 2023.

Twelve colonies were well fed with syrup in autumn 2021 and given homemade candy or Candipolline blocks in the New Year. One colony died over winter, but eleven survived and had laying queens when fully inspected at the end of March. The apiary had several cases of European Foul Brood (EFB) in 2019 and 2020, but no EFB was found in colonies in 2021. At the apiary inspection on 22 April 2022, Jack Silberrad (SBI) found EFB in one colony. The colony was killed, the frames and bees burned and the hive parts scorched. The apiary was put under a standstill notice and could not be used for beginners or other practical training. Some colonies were broodless at the re-inspection on 12 June and the standstill had to continue until 29 July when all colonies had sufficient brood to be inspected. No EFB was found and the standstill notice was lifted. This allowed Bill Block to conduct BBKA Basic Assessments at the apiary on 31 July and 7 August. Nine candidates passed, five with credits.

Soon after EFB had been found, we tried to prevent swarms leaving the apiary and transferring EFB to other areas. Queens in all hives were found and clipped, but most colonies still tried to swarm. Without a flying queen the swarms usually returned to the hive or, on a few occasions, a small swarm assembled around the queen on the ground. The colonies were then thoroughly inspected and queen cells reduced down to just one good cell to prevent casts leaving the hive. Through this policy we were fairly sure that no CBKA swarms left the apiary. Because the apiary is open to full sun, two days before the predicted record high temperatures white sheets were placed over the most exposed hives to prevent the colonies overheating. All colonies survived the record temperature (39.9°C recorded in Cambridge).

Since 2019 several colonies that had had EFB have been destroyed and replacement colonies have all come from two queen lines. To broaden interest

for beginners and improvers, it was decided to add a Buckfast queen to the apiary. A new laying queen was purchased from BHP Queens and introduced into one of the hives in the summer; it will be assessed through the 2023 season. We would like to add other good breeding lines to the apiary, and this is something we will be pursuing in the coming seasons.

The last of the honey supers were taken off hives on 23 August and Apiguard put on above the brood boxes to control varroa. Of the 13 hives at the apiary, nine colonies produced extractable honey and 22 supers gave a total of 450 lb of honey and 19 lb of wax. This is the most honey ever produced at the Bedlam apiary, giving a yield of 50 lb per productive hive. Supers were stored with plywood sheets between each box and were extracted 4-5 weeks after being taken off the hives. In that time, some had been infested with wax moth and had to be destroyed. Wax moth has been a particular problem this year and some drawn brood frames were heavily infested and had to be destroyed.

For several seasons, super frames have been used with half sheets of unwired thin foundation. This has been successful and has several benefits for the apiary management at Bedlam. We avoid the need to extract honey mid-season, we minimise the opportunity for disease transfer season-to-season and hive-to-hive and it is very cost effective. It is, however, time consuming during the autumn and winter. The honey is extracted in the autumn by spinning where possible. The comb is cut out where the honey has set, and melted using the CBKA Apimelter. To reduce the risk of EFB being transferred to colonies the next year, all used frames are initially cleaned with the CBKA Easisteam and then boiled in a washing soda solution.

All 13 colonies were fed with sugar syrup during September and early October. Bees were very active during the warm autumn and some colonies took down or used lots of syrup. Wasps were a persistent problem and entrances were reduced to stop them getting into the hives. High numbers of *Varroa* mites were noticed on some floor slides during the Apiguard treatment in August/September, so oxalic acid (Apibioxal) syrup was dribbled into the top bars on 17 December. During this treatment, two colonies were found to have died; it did not appear to be starvation or robbing because there were plenty of accessible stores but very few bees.

Monitoring of three hives with the Arnia equipment continued throughout the year. It was interesting to see that brood temperature from late April to

October in all three colonies was maintained at a steady 35°C throughout, which is remarkable considering the extremely hot summer. The humidity within the colonies also remained around 50% with only minor fluctuations during the same period. Hive weight showed a steady increase from around 40 kg in April to a maximum of 60 kg in July. Peak flight activity fluctuated considerably, with peaks in March and May reaching maxima in July/August and declining in September. Further analysis linked to colony status and manipulations will be necessary to monitor events within the colonies.

The Association remains grateful to Chivers Farms Ltd for their continued support of the apiary at Bedlam Farm.

Roy Cross, Bill Block and Peter Dawson (Apiary Managers)

Bourn Apiary Report

EIGHT FULL COLONIES in national brood boxes and on a brood and a half (one super added to offer extra brood space) and three five-frame nucs survived the winter into 2022, and the apiary suffered no damage from the February gales. The previous autumns work to secure and strengthen the windbreak netting, certainly paid off. All colonies were treated with oxalic acid (dribble method) in January to reduce *Varroa* and, as insurance against starvation, all were given fondant icing. In early spring the colonies received a home-made pollen substitute feed (recipe available from Colin). A word of warning, adding a pollen substitute can increase the risk of early swarming. The substitute gave a real boost with the colonies increasing in strength very quickly and it soon became clear which colonies were exhibiting favourable characteristics. These were given a comb change by removing two old frames and replaced with two new foundation-less frames containing starter strips of wax to encourage the production of drones. The less favourable colonies received a programme of regular drone culling; queens and workers inherit up to 50% of their genes from the drones, so it is important to exert as much influence as possible to input 'good' drones into the mating area.

The Bourn apiary remains free of European Foul Brood (EFB), but with EFB prevalent in the Cambridge area biosecurity was a must. All visitors to the apiary were asked to have clean, newly washed bee-suits, clean gloves and to bring no equipment onto the site. Nitrile over-gloves were provided, and six clean bee-suits were kept on site and made available to visitors as required.

This year for the first time the apiary was used for some of the 2022 beginners' course practical sessions. Four colonies were chosen and prepared in readiness and we duly hosted 30 course members for three weekly sessions. Our visiting beginners were able to experience first-hand the biosecurity measures associated with EFB; time was taken to explain the disease and how we all need to be vigilant and importantly not to collect swarms from infected areas and not to purchase bees from unregulated sources in the Cambridge area. The practical sessions proved very worthwhile and enjoyable, although all four colonies suffered from being open for over an hour at each session, resulting in signs of swarming. As a preventive measure, three of the four colonies were split and new colonies were created.

With the regular team of James Cole, Mark Taylor and Sue Snape, we visited the Apiary every Tuesday evening throughout the summer months, beginning with swarm control measures. We had 26 empty five-frame nuc boxes in the shed and our aim was to utilise as many as possible throughout the season, firstly with a low-key programme of increase by building nucs direct from colonies. Following the beginner sessions, we experimented with methods described in Wally Shaw's booklet *Simple Methods of Making Increase*. These are really variations on the Pagdon swarm control method and very simple to execute and produced good results.

No major problems were experienced with our queens mating, I'm sure in part due to good weather throughout the season. I have heard reports of problems in other areas with early queen development in the cells during April/May, which seemed to coincide with the lack of oil-seed rape being grown. A recent study showed that on average species on OSR benefited from its increased cropping, concluding OSR (even with seed dressings) is beneficial to bees at a critical time of year.

Early autumn treatment for *Varroa* was carried out on the full colonies, with some receiving Apiguard and some Apivar, whilst the nucs were each treated with just one strip of Apivar. An autumn feed of Apikel was then given to all colonies. This was removed towards the end of October, but with the unusually mild weather continuing and the bees still very active in mid November it was decided to give the overwintering nucs an early block of fondant icing just in case. Plastic sheeting was stapled to the outsides of the hives as woodpecker protection and mouse guards added where required. The hives will be regularly hefted during the winter, all will receive a Christmas present of fondant icing and, during a suitably cold spell, oxalic acid treatment.

Providing enough worker bees to populate the nucs was the biggest problem and our donor colonies were constantly monitored throughout the season. We did utilise all 26 nuc boxes and all our nuc colonies were complete with new queens successfully mated on site. All the new queens are from our stock of local bees carried over from last winter and mated on site. The stock are mongrels and of unknown origin and, while some new queens will perform well, some may well present the unfavourable characteristics of an 'F1' strain. Members who took a nuc have been asked to monitor their new colony and report back next year. Only by careful record keeping, monitoring

over a long time and constantly raising new stock from the best performing colonies will we be able to improve our local bees.

My thanks to James, Mark and Sue for their continued help, loyalty and reliability throughout the year. If you are interested in learning how easy it is to produce queens for yourself and would like to be involved or would like to come along and just observe, please contact me or a member of the regular team.

Colin Bell, Bourn Apiary Manager

CBKA Equipment Use

RECORDED BORROWING OF CBKA equipment from the Wandlebury bee-shed for the period 2014 through 2022 is shown below. Note that this is not a comprehensive list, because some items were borrowed without being signed out and some items were out for many months as a single booking (e.g. virtual hive for events and several series of talks in previous years).

	2014	2015	2016	2107	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Extractors	119	85	79	106	79	65	85	60	73
Pratley trays	55	34	39	52	39	35	38	22	35
Honey tanks	27	13	24	25	18	13	17	15	21
Wax melter	1	2	1	1	2	2	2	1	3
Easi-steam	1	0	0	10	1	4	1	2	9
Virtual hive	7	2	7	9	5	7	0	1	5
Creamer-paddle	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	0	2
Candle moulds	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	0	1
Apimelter	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	4

In addition to the items listed above, do not forget that the CBKA have filters, an electric uncapping knife, an uncapping tray and wax processing equipment, including a solar wax extractor, which can be borrowed if required. The records above indicate that we probably had a reasonable year for honey production and certainly better than 2021.

A reminder that when borrowing a Pratley tray it is essential that you take the correct electric lead, because there are three different types, otherwise you will have had a wasted journey. When returning the Pratley tray please ensure the electric lead, wax filter and the uncapping board are also returned. Please return any equipment in a state you would want to find it and return it as soon as possible after use.

The access track to the bee-shed has a gate and chain, and the CBKA has fitted a combination padlock to the Wandlebury Wardens' padlock. Please link our padlock through the chain and the Wardens' padlock when leaving the site, to enable both the CBKA members and the Wardens to use the track. The bee-shed is fitted with movement sensors to switch the lights on and off; therefore, you do not need to find a switch to turn the lights off when you

leave, but do please make sure you lock the bee-shed door.

If whilst you are using an item, you find that something is broken or it breaks whilst you are using it, please inform us so that 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 – even though we may recognise your name. This is so that we can check your 2023 membership details.

In order to borrow equipment, you will require both the gate padlock code and the new door code; the door code will be changed again in early 2023. Please keep borrowed equipment for as short a time as possible (seven days as a maximum) because it is inconsiderate to other CBKA members for anyone to have equipment out for a long period of time.

When you have been given the codes to access the bee-shed, please do not pass the codes to others, otherwise we have no knowledge of who has borrowed equipment or even if they are still members of the CBKA.

Please ensure you book the equipment out and back in when appropriate, by putting details on the note-pad hanging adjacent to the extractors, and write clearly and legibly because we need to know who you are. In 2023, 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

The Inspector's Brief

IT IS WITH pleasure that I report a great 2022 season working in Cambridgeshire. I have been especially pleased to observe networking and rapport-building pay dividends, with many beekeepers contacting the inspector's email address to interrogate a suspected disorder of the colony, share photographs or ask a question of husbandry. Maintaining contact is very welcome, because this allows prioritised inspections and very often a rapid source of relief upon revealing more benign maladies.

Many members will have seen news of the Portsmouth and Essex Asian hornet nests successfully tracked down and eliminated by the NBU last year. We will all be looking forward to expanding our knowledge and understanding of this pest, with talks later this year.

No doubt you will also have heard of the record year for European Foul Brood (EFB) diagnosis in Cambridgeshire last season, though I would caution there is some nuance. A number of factors are used to decide which areas represent a higher priority for inspection, including locales with historical EFB cases, beekeepers with recently diagnosed colonies, nearest neighbours and those engaged in selling bees and their products. Within an overall historical trend of rising cases of EFB and a concentrated inspection regime focused on Cambridge and the surrounds, an increased rate of diagnosis seemed likely. While a substantial uptick in cases has been observed, this enhanced surveillance meant the majority of colonies were treated successfully using the shook-swarm method. Many beekeepers took advantage of compensation via the Bee Diseases Insurance scheme.

With an ever-higher density of beekeepers, both producing and acquiring swarms, cases are now beginning to appear in more rural and traditionally EFB-free areas, where swarms are transported to out-apiaries. Protect yourself when collecting a swarm with three easy tips:

- **House swarms on fresh undrawn foundation only:** drawn comb allows immediate deposition of honey from the mother colony – and potentially disease from therein!
- **Feed your swarm only after three days, if at all:** the swarm will use the honey crop it arrived with for energy, maximising clearance of disease; feeding is unnecessary during a flow

- **Treat your swarm for *Varroa* mites:** Swarms carry about half the *Varroa* mites of the mother colony; when comb-drawing indicates a settled swarm (after ~7 days) consider a *Varroa* treatment. Oxalic acid-based treatments during this period with open brood would be very effective.

Remember! “99p or EFB” – washing soda is inexpensive, 1 kg makes 5 litres of washing solution. It is an effective barrier to cross-contamination of hives and apiaries when used to wash gloves, hive tools and smoker bellows, especially where the fingertips rest! One 99p batch lasts a long time when used as 1 litre portions in a bucket and refreshing when soiled.

Coming through winter, many beekeepers will now be looking to ensure feed and stores on their stock are sufficient, and observe their colonies building up in the spring. Comparing colonies, we may notice one or more are developing differently during expected build-up. An initial check by shaking bees from the combs to enable proper viewing will inform decisions about husbandry or the need for a precautionary inspection.

As before, I look forward to hearing from you via email to jack.silberrad@apha.gov.uk or on 07776 165869. With all the hard work and affirmative action from beekeepers in the last year, the maintenance of good apiary hygiene, and growing knowledge through talks and wider research, I look forward to continuing working together with you to affect good bee health and husbandry.

Jack Silberrad, Seasonal Bee Inspector

Exam Secretary's Report

AFTER A COVID-ENFORCED break in 2021, the Improvers' Course resumed in 2022 with 25 people enrolled. Unfortunately, Barny Henderson had to miss three of the six sessions; one week was missed because of a business trip to the U.S, and the next two weeks were missed because of a Covid infection picked up during the trip. Thankfully, Steve Kilmurray and Jack Silberrad were able to step into the gap and led the sessions excellently.

In the summer we had 18 candidates take their BBKA Basic Assessment (some from the 2020 cohort). There were 10 who achieved a Credit (congratulations to Annemarie Joswig, Christopher Oakes, James Warren, Jaquie Finn, Joanna Percival, Maria Wilson, Milly Farouki, Robin Lea, Rudolf Marx and Thomas Deingruber) and 8 who achieved a Pass mark (congratulations to Alison Goodfellow, Andrew Denson, Catherine Hubbard, Heather Lloyd-Jones, Martin Harnor, Richard Rowlands, Stephen Taylor and Tania Pauley). Many thanks to Bill Block and Jonathan Baynes (our wonderful Examiners) and to Peter Connor for handling our finances. The course could not run without them.

Special mention must go to Ann Mahaffey who passed the BBKA Module 8 exam with Distinction. That also meant that she became only the third person from the CBKA to achieve their BBKA Advanced Theory Certificate. She accomplished that with an overall Credit mark.

Barny Henderson

Beginners' Course Report

2022 Beginners

AS A RESULT of COVID, the 2021 Beginners' Course was cancelled, which meant a carry over of prospective beginners to the 2022 course, together with those who had subsequently applied to join. The initial eight lectures were duly completed and, although we lost a few attendees along the way, the majority reached the end and prepared for the practical sessions at the CBKA apiaries at either Wandlebury or Impington.

As in previous years, I have to give a huge vote of thanks to all the people who assisted in the various aspects of the completed part of the 2022 course, which include IT expertise, manhandling chairs and PA equipment, giving the lectures, organising or helping provide the practical sessions, offering to be "Bee Buddies/Mentors" to beginners and helping to provide bees for them.

This year the provision of bees has been a particular problem because it appeared that many early swarms departed to their new homes before any beekeeper could get to them and there was a significant impact of European Foul Brood (EFB) in and around Cambridge. It resulted in a decision that I would not accept any swarms at Wandlebury due to not wanting EFB taken to the teaching apiary, and I was not happy for them to be passed to beginners. This significantly reduced the number of swarms I became aware of, but where splits had been created I was happy for these to be passed to the beginners.

The ongoing impact of EFB is something we are addressing, but last year I was not happy for a potentially infected colony to be passed to a beginner, only to see it dwindle and either die out or be destroyed; this would surely be the worst beginning for a beekeeper to have to their new hobby. This resulted in some of the 2022 course not getting bees last year, but hopefully they will obtain some early in 2023 from recognised breeders or from their Bee Buddy.

The Autumn lecture for the course (honey removal, *Varroa* treatment, feeding and preparing for winter) was held, but the attendance was not as good as hoped for; this may have been as a result of the lack of bees. The final lecture of the 2022 course was scheduled for 11 January 2023, but on 9 December 2022 we were notified that our bookings for 2023 in the venue at Chesterton had been cancelled, and when writing this we are seeking a suitable venue to hold the lecture.

2023 Beginners

DURING 2022, WE received approximately 130 expressions of interest in attending the 2023 course. In an effort to ensure we only had seriously interested people, an Introductory Session was held in late 2022 that hopefully meant that we have approaching a full course of 90 keen potential beekeepers. However, the decision by Chesterton to cancel our bookings for the venue for the course has resulted in a delay in even starting it, as we have been trying after the notification to secure a suitable venue to run it.

Assuming we can run the course, we will certainly be wanting help in providing nucs of bees and giving both time and expertise with the practical sessions. Therefore, please let me know if you are willing to be involved in any of these.

Stephen Poyser, Beginners Course Coordinator

External Talks 2022

ACCORDING TO THE Constitution of the CBKA, its primary purpose (also called its 'object') is to "promote and further the craft of bee-keeping". You should know that as part of your completion of your membership form each year, we ask whether you would be willing to give talks on behalf of CBKA. We have around 20 beekeepers who volunteer and I would be delighted if any members reading this would consider adding to this list. You don't have to be an expert and just by being a beekeeper you will most likely know a lot more than your audience.

Throughout the beekeeping year I act as an outreach coordinator. Requests for talks arrive, usually via an email to the secretary, though we also have a dedicated email address (outreach@cbka.org.uk) that can be found with more information in the education section of the CBKA website.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of those of you who have spoken in 2022. I am also aware that there are CBKA members who have given talks through personal contact, and not through the outreach programme, and I want to thank you too for doing this. Personally, I find it incredibly rewarding to see the excited look on the faces of young school children when I give a 'show-and-tell' whilst dressed in my beesuit. Also, to provide answers to the broad-ranging questions of older persons about honey, beekeeping facts or the planting of bee-friendly flowers.

I apologise here for any omissions, but I have recorded below those talks that I'm aware of in 2022. I would be very pleased to receive contact from any you who have spoken so that I can acknowledge you in future summaries.

Rebecca Strivens gave talks to the reception children at Histon and Impington Park Infants School in Spring, 2022. Glyn Jones also gave talks to Impington schoolchildren in June 2022. Kirsten McLaughlin spoke to the schoolchildren at Somersham Primary School in May 2022. I gave talks to Barton Primary School children and the University of Cambridge Primary School in Eddington in May 2022. Richard Game spoke at the Melbourn Springs Care Home in July 2022. Jonathan Baynes gave a talk at the Sandon Gardening Club. Graham Beesley spoke to children at Cambourne Village College. Finally, I gave talks to the 26th Cambridge Brownies, Earith Primary School, and to the NHS Retirement Fellowship at their meeting in Fulbourn in late August.

Once again, thank you to all of those mentioned, and also those that I am either unaware of or those I have forgotten. The talks demonstrate that we are fulfilling our ambition to spread the word about the fascinating hobby of beekeeping!

Paul Schofield, Outreach Co-ordinator

The CBKA Library

AS THE NEW librarian for the CBKA, I have completed a stock check of all the books stored in the Central Library collections. We have over 200 books and the updated book list is on the CBKA website along with instructions on how to borrow books.

I have also purchased some new books that will be added to the list. These are:

- *Honeybee Veterinary Medicine: Apis mellifera L*, by Nicolas Vidal-Naquet – this is a useful book with lots of detail about the parasites and diseases that affect honeybees.
- *Varroa Management: a practical guide on how to manage Varroa mites in honeybee colonies*, by Kirsty Stainton – gives details of all the current treatments for *Varroa* and explains how to use them in a step-by-step guide; would be very helpful for new beekeepers.
- *Pollen Grains & Honeydew*: a guide for identifying the plant sources in honey, by Margaret Anne Adams – this has detailed pictures and information about the plants and pollen in the UK and sets out a simple approach to beekeepers who want to identify the plant sources of their own honey.
- *Food Safety for Beekeepers: advice on legal requirements and practical actions*, by Andy Pedley – published in 2022, this book gives up-to-date advice on the legislation in England, along with practical advice.

THE CBKA LIBRARY has a wide range of books that would be very useful to anyone wishing to take any of the BBKA modules, but also to anyone interested in furthering their knowledge of any aspect of beekeeping. Any member of the CBKA can borrow books. Please get in touch with me if you have any problems or questions about the book collection. Also, let me know if you want to suggest books that we should purchase to add to our library.

Alison Goodfellow

Events Coordinator Report

AS A RESULT of some organisations starting afresh after Covid-19, and other events being cancelled as a result of the death of the Queen, we only attended 6 events in 2022. The list of attended events is: Reach Fair, Haslingfield Eco Event, Whittlesford, CBKA Honey Show at Stow cum Quy (2 days), Stourbridge Fair and Gransden Show. As in previous years, 10% of our takings was donated to the organisers in lieu of paying a pitch fee. We were very well received at all of the events and there is no doubt an observation hive, with a good colony of bees within it, is a very good draw for the public. As normal for “the public” there is nothing like a crowd of people to act as a draw for others!

The bulk of the honey sold came from the CBKA apiaries at Wandlebury and Impington and the sales during the year were:

- 1 lb liquid honey: 264
- 1 lb set honey: 51
- 3/4 lb liquid honey: 126
- 3/4 lb set honey: 42
- 1/2 lb liquid honey: 112
- Cut comb: 16
- Wax blocks: 48

This resulted in total sales of £3,634 for 2022.

A huge thank you to all 18 CBKA Members who volunteered to come and help run the stalls and fulfil our charitable aims at the five one-day shows. Many CBKA Members attended more than one event (often at short notice as a result of the withdrawal by another helper). We also appreciate the 28 helpers who ensured the smooth running of the 2-day CBKA Honey Show at Quy. Offering to help at an event is not all hard work because it gives you the chance to look around the event and discuss queries or topics with other beekeepers on the stall.

Events for 2023 are starting to be booked, with Reach Fair on Monday 1 May, Honey Show at the Cambridge Country Show, Quy, on 5 and 6 August, and Gransden Show on 30 September. We are always seeking helpers to enable the events to run smoothly, so please contact us by email to hazel.bickle@cbka.org.uk to put your name forward to assist with the CBKA stall at any of the events; it is helpful, educational and a way of putting something back into the CBKA. Without the helpers we would not attend and, therefore, not comply with one of the main aims of our charitable status “To further and promote the craft of beekeeping”.

Hazel Bickle and Stephen Poyser

AGM Minutes

Minutes of the CBKA Annual General Meeting
Sunday 24 April 2022 at 3 pm, online via Zoom

Apologies and Chairman's Introduction

Apologies were received from Stephen Poyser, Daniel Zeichner MP, The Bishop of Ely, James Littlewood, Prof. Beverley Glover.

The meeting was quorate with 29 members attending. The CBKA Chairman, Paul Schofield, welcomed the members of the CBKA to the 2022 AGM, the first since 2019 due to Covid and restrictions on public meetings.

Minutes of the CBKA SGM held on 6 October 2019

Because this was the first AGM since the Association became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), those minutes were provided for reference. There were no questions.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Please see the Chairman's report in the 2021 Yearbook. Paul thanked the Committee and other members of the CBKA for their varied and invaluable help in running the CBKA over the past years.

Treasurer's report including presentation of the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021

Please see the Yearbook 2021 for the accounts and detailed Treasurer's report. Net income in 2021 was higher than expected at around £5000, the 2022 Beginners' Course took place and there is a schedule of events planned for 2022, at which CBKA honey will be sold. All of this should ensure that the CBKA finances remain healthy. There were no questions.

Membership fees for 2022 – for information only

The BBKA advised that it was increasing its annual membership fee from 1 October 2021 as follows:

- Ordinary members: An 11% increase from £19 to £21
- Partner members: An 8% increase from £12.50 to £13.50

This was the first increase in BBKA fees since 2015. In the light of the CBKA's financial position, the Committee had decided the Association will not pass on all of this increase to members in 2022, but absorb half of this increase itself. As a result, CBKA membership fees for 2022 would be:

- Ordinary members: £29
- Partner members: £16

Fees for Junior and other classes of members will remain unchanged.

Election of Trustees

In accordance with the CBKA's constitution, one third of the Association's trustees must step down at the AGM and, if so willing, offer themselves for re-election. This year, the following are stepping down:

- Chairman: Paul Schofield
- Membership Secretary: Liz Cox

Paul Schofield offered himself for re-election as Chairman; was proposed by Susan Wilkie and seconded by Martin Kendall and was elected with a clear majority (23 votes).

Martin Kendall offered himself for election as Membership Secretary; was proposed by Paul Schofield, seconded by Liz Cox and was elected with a clear majority (23 votes).

Paul thanked Liz Cox for her work for the CBKA, including writing the new CBKA constitution.

Election of Six Committee Members

In accordance with CBKA's constitution, the Association's non-trustee Committee Members must step down at the AGM and, if so willing, offer themselves for re-election. The following indicated their willingness to stand for re-election: David Abson, Stephen Poyser, Philip Turon, Sally Knowles. Three more candidates were also nominated: John Hall, Jonathan Baynes and Alison Goodfellow.

All the candidates were asked to speak briefly about themselves and what they hoped to achieve for the CBKA were they to become members of the Committee.

Those attending were asked to vote for a maximum of six candidates from the seven proposed:

- David Abson proposed by Peter Connor, seconded by Peter Bates

- Jonathan Baynes proposed by Sally Knowles, seconded by Paul Schofield
- Alison Goodfellow proposed by Sally Knowles, seconded by Susan Wilkie
- John Hall proposed by Sally Knowles, seconded by Susan Wilkie
- Sally Knowles proposed by Susan Wilkie, seconded by Martin Kendall
- Stephen Poyser proposed by Susan Wilkie, seconded by Bill Block
- Philip Turon proposed by Doug Brown, seconded by Elizabeth Cox

DA – 12 votes, JB – 21, AG – 21, JH – 20, SK – 24, SP – 25, PT – 21. The elected CBKA Committee members for 2022/2023 are Jonathan Baynes, Alison Goodfellow, John Hall, Sally Knowles, Stephen Poyser and Philip Turon.

Paul thanked David for his long service on the Committee and for organising the One-Day Seminar for many years.

Election of President and Vice-Presidents

Current President Bill Clark was proposed by Stephen Poyser and seconded by Bill Block – carried unanimously.

Vice-Presidents

Paul proposed voting *en bloc* for the Vice Presidents, subject to their agreement to stand. Seconded by Peter Bates. Carried unanimously.

Honorary Members

The Committee proposed conferring Honorary Membership on John Rayner and David Abson. Both have given the CBKA many years of dedicated service.

John Rayner was a member of the CBKA Committee for many years. He designed and wrote the original computerised membership system, played a large part in the Beginners' Course and managed the Wandlebury Apiary. The meeting voted unanimously to confer Honorary Membership on John Rayner.

David Abson has been a Committee Member for many years, contributing his long beekeeping experience and insight to discussions (and also tea, biscuits and humorous interjections). He organised many successful and well-attended One Day Seminars and has enthusiastically engaged members of the public visiting the CBKA stall at numerous local events. The meeting voted unanimously with one abstention to confer Honorary Membership on David Abson.

Resolution “That we remove Companion member from the list of membership types available” (see Clause 10).

Reasons:

- a. Companion members have no voting rights (see Clause 12(6)(a) and do not receive anything for their membership that is not available to the general public. They can attend our talks and meetings. If an Ordinary member wishes to bring a partner or friend to a meeting they can already do so.
- b. If they wish to support CBKA they could join as an Associate or make a donation.
- c. the new online system cannot deal with too many membership combinations

The resolution was carried (96% in favour).

Resolution “That this meeting agrees that those Associate members of CBKA who reside outside the United Kingdom have their voting rights removed”

Reasons:

- a. As a result of the very successful talks programme, the number of Associate members joining CBKA has increased significantly. However, many of them live outside of the UK and are unlikely to ever visit us or attend any of our meetings in person. It seems inappropriate, therefore, for them to have voting rights.
- b. The quorum for CBKA meetings is 5% of the total membership who have voting rights i.e. Honorary, Ordinary, Partner and Associates. Because a large proportion of Associates are unlikely to attend our meetings in person, this could mean that we are inquorate, despite many of our local members being present.

The resolution was carried (92% in favour).

AOB and questions for the Committee

Doug Brown – Vice Presidents are members of the community in a position to assist the CBKA if it becomes necessary to do so. Is it absolutely necessary to put their election to the position to a vote at the AGM? Making this the remit of the Committee would allow greater flexibility and simplify the AGM. The Constitution is silent on the subject of Presidents and Vice Presidents.

Response: No opposition to removing this item from the agenda was expressed, so DB will bring the proposal to the Committee.

Hazel Bickle asked the attendees to consider helping at the Reach Fair. PT pointed out that there was a lack of volunteers for all the events.

LC and SK thanked Tom Wilkie for handling the voting system and facilitating smooth running of the meeting.

The Chairman thanked all participants, wished them a successful beekeeping season and reminded them to follow all EFB guidelines.

Meeting closed at 4.20 pm.

Treasurer's Report

THE ASSOCIATION HAS had a very successful year, with Covid-19 casting less of a shadow over our activities than in the previous two years and significantly more activity as a result. We were able to hold the Beginners' and Improvers' Courses this year, together with a very successful Honey Show and Annual Dinner. It is a delight to be able to promote our craft to the wider public once more, and to meet with – and chat to – the wider membership, especially the volunteers who support our training activities and events. I would like to thank them all for their enthusiasm and hard work.

Summary of income and expenditure for 2022

The following table summarises the income and expenditure in 2022, together with the equivalent figures for 2021, categorised by each source of income and its associated costs, with further detail on each set out in the narrative below the table.

INCOME

THE CBKA DERIVES its income from the following sources:

- a. Members' subscriptions and donations. The largest source of the CBKA's income is members' subscriptions and donations. The total received, including amounts paid for additional BDI insurance, the Beekeepers' Quarterly journal and donations towards research, was c. £16,700, which was broadly the same as the previous year. Within that total, subscription income increased by c. £1,500. This was due to a combination of a higher number of members, primarily due to the new members joining from the 2022 Beginners' Course, and an increase in the Ordinary membership subscription of £1. This increase was solely to reflect an increase in the BBKA's annual fees, which increased by £2 for Ordinary members; the Committee had previously agreed to restrict the increase in our membership fee to just £1 and absorb the rest of the BBKA's increase rather than passing the whole amount on to members. However, donations received from members with their subscriptions were c. £700 lower than in 2021, no doubt reflecting the current economic climate.
- b. Educational activities. The second largest source of income for the

		2022			2021		
		Inc.	Exp.	Net inc.	Inc.	Exp.	Net inc.
		£	£	£	£	£	£
1	From / on behalf of members	16,723	(11,662)	5,061	16,447	(9,977)	6,470
2	Educational activities	6,398	(4,447)	1,951	–	(2,129)	(2,129)
3	The sale of products	4,576	(2,020)	2,556	4,187	(655)	3,532
4	Other income, including GiftAid	2,033	-	2,033	3,173	-	3,173
5	Running the Association's apiaries	-	(2,276)	(2,276)	-	(2,795)	(2,795)
6	Running the Association	-	(2,278)	(2,278)	-	(2,240)	(2,240)
7	Grants to research organisations	-	(4,000)	(4,000)	-	(1,000)	(1,000)
		29,730	(26,683)	3,047	23,807	(18,796)	5,011

CBKA is normally its educational activities, comprising:

- The Beginners' Course
- The Improvers' Course
- The One Day Seminar
- Other events, such as a Bee Disease Day, a coach trip and the Annual Dinner

It was a relief that we were able to run the Beginner's and Improvers' Courses in 2022 after Covid-19 had prevented us from doing so in 2021. The Beginners' course was particularly well attended, with 90 participants. Unfortunately Covid-19 prevented us from holding our One-Day Seminar in 2022, but we look forward to this year's One-Day Seminar, which will take place on 15 April 2023.

We were able to host our Annual Dinner for the first time since

2019, and it was a pleasure to welcome so many members to the CRC in December – and to congratulate the many winners from the 2022 Honey Show who received their prizes at the dinner.

- c. The sale of products. As COVID restrictions eased, the Association was able to attend more events than in 2021 and 2020, and it is reassuring to see the public's continuing demand for high quality honey when it is available. In addition to the sale of honey at these events, the Association made some bulk sales of honey to several members. In the spring, the Association was able to exchange c. 140 kg of wax at Thorne's for both fresh foundation worth c. £450, and a credit of £406 against the purchase of equipment for its apiaries.
- d. Other income. Gift Aid remains a very welcome supplement to the Association's income, and effectively funds the day-to-day administrative costs of running the Association, enabling the Committee to channel all of the income from members and the Association's other activities into its charitable activities. Therefore, I encourage all members who are able to take advantage of Gift Aid to do so on their membership renewal forms. Gift Aid for 2022 has not yet been agreed with HMRC, but is expected to be lower than in previous years because fewer members appear eligible, or have chosen, to Gift Aid their subscriptions or donations. General donations to the Association were c. £500 lower than in 2021.

Expenditure

Expenditure during the year related to the following:

- a. On behalf of members. The majority of the subscriptions paid by members is paid across to organisations such as the BBKA, BDI and Beekeepers' Quarterly. These costs increased significantly because, as noted above, the BBKA increased its fee by £2 per Ordinary member and £1 per Partner member.
- b. Educational activities. Expenditure on educational activities relates primarily to room hire and speakers' fees for the Beginners' and Improvers' Courses and our talks programme, together with the cost of the Annual Dinner. As we had not held the Beginners' or Improvers' Courses or an Annual Dinner in 2021 but were able to hold all of these in 2022, costs were significantly higher than in 2021. However, the

additional income from holding these courses and the Annual Dinner resulted in a positive contribution in 2022, compared to 2021 when there was no specific income to allocate against the cost of the talks programme.

- c. Products for sale. Because we were able to attend some events this year, we made donations to the organisations hosting them and also purchased some members' honey for sale at them. This category also includes c. £900 of costs for the Honey Show, which returned triumphantly in 2022.
- d. 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 lower than 2021 when we purchased the apiary monitoring system for Impington. The Association's apiary managers and their teams do a wonderful job of managing the apiaries and supporting the teaching and training that CBKA do. I would like to thank them all for their hard work once again in 2022.
- e. Running the Association. A significant proportion of the costs of running the Association are printing and postage, including this Yearbook. These have been falling for a number of years as communication has moved online – with a corresponding increase in website and related costs. As noted above, GiftAid currently funds these activities, and the Committee constantly seeks to minimise the administrative costs of the Association.
- f. Research grants. The Association donated £4,000 to Newcastle University to fund specific research on EFB, which continues to impact many members around Cambridge. The Committee is currently reviewing applications for research funding for 2023 and beyond.

Reserves

The surplus for the year has increased the Association's reserves to c. £79,000. The majority of the Association's assets are held in cash, and the closing cash balance was c. £80,000. 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 2023

The Association's budget for 2023 indicates that the recent level of income will be maintained, as we plan to run the Beginners' and Improvers' Courses this year, together with the One-Day Seminar in the spring, and the number of members is expected to be consistent with 2022. However, costs are expected to increase as inflation impacts all parts of the economy and the Committee therefore expects a more modest surplus, if any, for the year as a whole. 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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For a full, up-to-date list of Bee Inspectors, look at BeeBase: <http://tinyurl.com/cxsr8bu>



CAMBRIDGESHIRE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

CAMBRIDGESHIRE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

		2022		2021
		Accumulation Fund	Research Fund	Total
		£	£	£
INCOME				
	<i>From members</i>			
	Subscriptions	14,158		14,158
	Donations	659	916	1,575
	CBKA Newsletter	-		-
	<i>Amounts collected from members for CBKA activities</i>	<u>14,817</u>	<u>916</u>	<u>15,733</u>
	Additional BDI cover requested by members	590		590
	Members' subscriptions to Beekeepers' Quarterly	<u>400</u>		<u>400</u>
	Total amounts collected from members	15,807	916	16,723
	<i>From educational activities</i>			
	Beginners' training course	4,393		4,393
	Try-a-hive	-		-
	Improvers' training course	625		625
	One Day Seminar	-		-
	Other courses and events	<u>1,380</u>		<u>1,380</u>
		6,398	-	6,398
	<i>From sale of products</i>			
	Honey (on behalf of members)	638		638
	Honey (from CBKA hives)	2,871		2,871
	Polo shirts, badges and ancillary items	<u>1,067</u>		<u>1,067</u>
		4,576	-	4,576
	<i>Other income, including GiftAid</i>	1,915	118	2,033
	Total income	<u>28,696</u>	<u>1,034</u>	<u>29,730</u>
EXPENDITURE				
	<i>On behalf of members</i>			
	BBKA membership	(9,794)		(9,794)
	Bee Disease Insurance	(1,468)		(1,468)
	Beekeepers' Quarterly	<u>(400)</u>		<u>(400)</u>
		(11,662)	-	(11,662)
	<i>On educational activities</i>			
	Beginners' training course	(1,478)		(1,478)
	Try-a-hive	-		-
	Improvers' training course	(328)		(328)
	One Day Seminar	-		-
	Other talks, courses and events	<u>(2,641)</u>		<u>(2,641)</u>
		(4,447)	-	(4,447)
	<i>On products for sale</i>			
	Honey from members	(510)		(510)
	Preparing and packaging honey from CBKA hives	(164)		(164)
	Polo shirts, badges and ancillary items	(100)		(100)
	Cost of running the Honey Show	(929)		(929)
	Cost of attending third party events	<u>(317)</u>		<u>(317)</u>
		(2,020)	-	(2,020)
	<i>On running the Association's apiaries</i>			
	Maintenance	(2,276)		(2,276)
	Capital expenditure	-		-
		(2,276)	-	(2,276)
	<i>On running the Association</i>			
	Insurance	(470)		(470)
	Printing and stationary	(745)		(745)
	Room hire	(179)		(179)
	Other costs	<u>(884)</u>		<u>(884)</u>
		(2,278)	-	(2,278)
	<i>Grants to research organisations</i>	-	(4,000)	(4,000)
	Total expenditure	<u>(22,683)</u>	<u>(4,000)</u>	<u>(26,683)</u>
NET INCOME		<u>6,013</u>	<u>(2,966)</u>	<u>3,047</u>
				<u>5,011</u>

CAMBRIDGESHIRE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION
(Registered charity No. 1183601)



FOUNDED 1881 • REG CHARITY 1183601

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

		2022		2021	
		£	£	£	£
Stock	CBKA badges	330		57	
	Jars and other packaging for honey	453		271	
	Stock of Polo Shirts	135		157	
	Wax for processing	-		-	
	Stock of Try-A-Hives	-		-	
	Manuals for beginners	18		113	
			936		598
Receivables	Prepaid expenses	-		-	
	GiftAid receivable	2,022		-	
	Prepaid Wandlebury licence	150		150	
			2,172		150
Cash	Cash at Lloyds Bank	66,223		73,036	
	Lloyds Bank Deposit Account	10,530		10,524	
	Float for Cambridgeshire Apiaries events	374		-	
			77,127		83,560
Total assets			80,235		84,308
Less creditors	BBKA subscriptions paid in advance	-		(19)	
	BDI paid in advance	-		(2)	
	BKQ subscriptions paid in advance	(60)		(200)	
	Beginner's Course fees paid in advance	(90)		(7,095)	
	One Day Seminar fees paid in advance	-		-	
	Membership subscriptions paid in advance	(50)		(29)	
	Provision for possible charge for Wandlebury	-		-	
	Key deposits for Impington Apiary	(20)		(20)	
	Other accruals	(746)		(721)	
			(966)		(8,086)
Net assets			79,269		76,222
Represented by					
Accumulation fund	At the beginning of the year	70,411		66,029	
	Excess of income over expenditure during the year	6,013		4,382	
	At the end of the year		76,424		70,411
Research fund	At the beginning of the year	5,811		5,182	
	Donations from members during the year, gross of GiftAid	1,034		1,629	
	Grants made during the year	(4,000)		(1,000)	
	At the end of the year		2,845		5,811
Total Funds			79,269		76,222

Note to the Accounts.

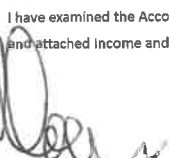
CBKA's accounting policy is to write off against any surpluses, the cost of all capital purchases at the time of acquisition. As a result, the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022 do not show the value of CBKA's fixed assets. In 2022, the assets of CBKA were checked and valued at current prices and CBKA's buildings and contents insurance was updated accordingly.

Apiary shed - Wandlebury	£7,792	£7,640
Apiary sheds and outbuildings Impington and Bourn - at each location	£4,972	£4,874
Apiary tools, equipment and accessories - at each location	£40,403	£39,611
Apiary hives and bee colonies (excluding disease - covered by BDI) - at each location	£9,324	£9,141
Trailer, PA equipment and other assets	£19,543	£19,160


Peter Connor
Hon. Treasurer

Auditor

I have examined the Accounts of 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 2022.


Mr M Cooper
17 March 2023



CAMBRIDGESHIRE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

CAMBRIDGESHIRE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

		2022		2021
		Accumulation Fund	Research Fund	Total
		£	£	£
INCOME				
	<i>From members</i>			
	Subscriptions	14,158		14,158
	Donations	659	916	1,575
	CBKA Newsletter	-		-
	<i>Amounts collected from members for CBKA activities</i>	<u>14,817</u>	<u>916</u>	<u>15,733</u>
	Additional BDI cover requested by members	590		590
	Members' subscriptions to Beekeepers' Quarterly	<u>400</u>		<u>400</u>
	Total amounts collected from members	15,807	916	16,723
	<i>From educational activities</i>			
	Beginners' training course	4,393		4,393
	Try-a-hive	-		-
	Improvers' training course	625		625
	One Day Seminar	-		-
	Other courses and events	<u>1,380</u>		<u>1,380</u>
		6,398	-	6,398
	<i>From sale of products</i>			
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(Registered charity No. 1183601)



FOUNDED 1881 • REG CHARITY 1183601

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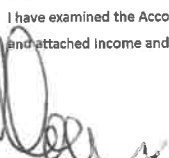
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