

CHESHIRE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION



REPORT AND BALANCE SHEET for 2020

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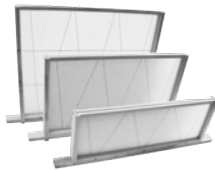
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CHESHIRE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

Founded 1899. Registered Charity No. 227494
(Affiliated to the BBKA formerly Lancashire & Cheshire BKA - Founded 1882)

COMMITTEE FOR 2020

President:	Mrs P.A. HATTON	Hatton	Tel. 01925 263023
Chair:	P. SUTCLIFFE	Holmes-Chapel	Tel. 01477 532171
Vice-chair:	Mrs L. JACQUES	Hartford	Tel. 07788 744086

ELECTED COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mrs B. Bryant, Willaston	(2024)	G. F. Royle, Macclesfield	(2024)
Mrs P.A. Hatton, Hatton	(2022)	P. Sutcliffe, Holmes Chapel	(2022)
J.S. Hollinshead, Betchton	(2024)	A. G. Platt, Hartford	(2023)
N. Brierly, Irby	(2023)	J. Goodwin, Brereton	(2023)
Mrs L. Parker, Little Budworth	(2022)		

BRANCH CHAIRS AND TREASURERS ON COMMITTEE

North Cheshire	S. HATTON, Hatton; P. WOODHEAD, Helsby
South Cheshire	P. SUTCLIFFE, Holmes Chapel; D. SMITH, Goostrey
Stockport	B. GEE, Hyde; A. TAYLOR, Stockport
Wirral	N. BRIERLY, Irby; N. W. ASHTON, Willaston
Mid Cheshire	Mrs L. PARKER, Tarporley; S & N. D. JOHNSON, Antrobus

HON. GENERAL SECRETARY

Mrs E.A. CAMM, Magpie Manor, Wistaston Green Rd, Crewe CW2 8SA, Tel: 07827 297144

HON. TREASURER

S.K. NUTTALL: Spurstow Lodge, Peckforton Hall Lane, Spurstow CW6 9TF, Tel: 01829 260456

CONVENTION SECRETARY

Mrs P.A. HATTON: 2 Hatton Lodge Cottages, Warrington Road, Hatton, Warrington WA4 5NZ, Tel: 01925 263023

DELEGATE TO BBKA ANNUAL DELEGATES' MEETING

Mrs L. JACQUES: 5 Millwood Drive, Hartford, CW8 2ZJ, Tel: 07788 744086

COUNTY ARCHIVIST

P. SUTCLIFFE: Broad Oak, 13 Station Rd, Holmes Chapel, CW4 7AU, Tel. 01477 532171

SHOW MANAGER

S. JOHNSON, 2 Frandley Brow Cottage, Sandiway Lane, Antrobus CW9 6LD, Tel: 01606 891318

HON. AUDITOR

J. SHEEKEY BSc. ACMA: 19 Eaton Mews, Chester, CH4 7EZ.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR and HANDBOOK SECRETARY

S. C. DONOHOE: 375 Barlow Moor Road, Manchester M21 7FZ, Tel. 07432 476005

EDUCATION SECRETARY

P. SUTCLIFFE: Broad Oak, 13 Station Rd, Holmes Chapel, CW4 7AU, Tel. 01477 532171

EXAMINATION SECRETARY

S. HATTON: 2 Hatton Lodge Cottages, Warrington Road, Hatton, Warrington WA4 5NZ,
Tel: 01925 263023

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Mrs B. Bryant, M.F. Haynes, J.S. Hollinshead, D. Lockett, I.S. McLean, D. Smart, A.A.J. van
Suchtelen, Mrs P. A. Hatton, S. Hatton, R. Brocklehurst, G. Royle

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

2020 has been a year like no other – and probably one we will never forget! Everything we always thought of as ‘normal’ flew out of the window thanks to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Spring Convention was our very last social get-together. The UK went into lockdown on 23rd March and since then there have been no branch meetings, no shows, no Autumn Convention – and even the module exams were cancelled! Hand washing, face masks and social distancing – even from family and friends, became the ‘new normal’. However, despite what was happening in the human world, nature carried on as usual, and thankfully, just like farmers tending their livestock, beekeepers were allowed to visit their apiaries to look after their bees. Beginners who had completed the theory courses were left stranded because practical sessions could not take place, but any of them who already had bees or who managed to get a swarm and needed help were mentored by generous minded individuals with visits on a socially distanced,

one-to-one basis. Members who were struggling with health or other issues also received help with their bees, and of course swarm collection continued as usual.

Thankfully technology came to the rescue and since September the county and some of the branches have been holding regular talks and meetings by Zoom, which have been very popular, but this is not ideal, as many members do not have access to technology. As I write this at the turn of the year there is hope. A vaccine is on the horizon with another in the pipeline, but also a new, more virulent strain of the virus has been discovered. The future is still uncertain, but what is certain is that come the spring our bees will build up and need our attention once again, and caring for our bees is something we can all definitely look forward to. So stay safe everyone – and happy beekeeping!

Pam Hatton
President

COMMITTEE REPORT FOR YEAR 2020

This report details the work carried out by the Committee on behalf of the membership for the year ended December 2020.

The main meeting of the year is our Annual General Meeting (AGM). This year the meeting was held at 11.30am on Saturday March 7th 2020 at Vale Royal Abbey Golf Club, Northwich during the Cheshire BKA Spring Convention. Members could attend the AGM free of charge if they did not want to attend the Convention.

Members were welcomed to the AGM by the President, Pam Hatton, who wished all members a successful 2020 with full supers. She then handed over the chairmanship of the meeting to Pete Sutcliffe, Deputy Chairperson in the absence of John Goodwin.

Five apologies for absence were accepted. The meeting stood as a mark of respect for the following members who had died recently: Roland Ayliffe (non branch member) and John Davies (Stockport). Both had rendered valuable service to the CBKA over many years.

The reports as detailed in the Year Book were all accepted. The delegate to the BBKA Annual Delegates Meeting (ADM) in January 2020 reported on the meeting. A written report on the ADM would appear in the 2020 Year Book and the CBKA News magazine.

Pam Hatton was elected as President for the coming year. It was proposed and agreed that Officers of the Association and other members be elected en bloc.

Edgar Mobbs Shield

The shield is presented to the best student of the year chosen from Cheshire Beekeeper members taking BBKA exams in the previous year. The recipient this year was Liz Brindle.

The Canon Evans Cup for Services to Beekeeping in Cheshire

The Canon Evans Cup for Services to Beekeeping in Cheshire was awarded to Graham Platt. Graham was commended for having been very active for many years in CBKA, both at county and at Branch level. He was very knowledgeable about bees and always ready to chat and offer advice. He has in the past been both Branch Treasurer and Show Manager, and currently runs a Module study group in the winter and offers his apiary for training in the summer.

Honorary Life Membership

Certificates were awarded to Roy Brocklehurst, Graham Royle, Pam Hatton and Stuart Hatton, for, in each case, outstanding commitment and service to the Association over many years.

Membership

The Registered and Partner membership at the end of September 2020 was North Cheshire Branch 138, South Cheshire 129, Stockport 195 (includes 1 school member), Wirral 112, Mid Cheshire 47, Non-Branch 3.

There are also 32 Associate members, 47 Country members, 14 Friends, 7 Juniors. This gives an Association total membership of 724, (712 in 2019). (Note this does not include new members joining after 1st October as they will be counted in the 2021 figures).

Please note that membership of a Branch is only through membership of the Association, and that only membership of CBKA gives access to all the benefits. Any member of CBKA is entitled to attend any Branch meeting, and this applies particularly to the meetings being held via Zoom in the present situation.

Weather and crop

The rainfall in 2020 (2019 rainfall) recorded by Malcolm Haynes in Stockport was Jan 68mm (71mm), Feb 178mm (28mm), March 70mm (116mm), April 0mm (40mm), May 28mm (22mm), June 114mm (139mm), July 110mm (209mm), Aug 126mm (114mm), Sept 37mm (156mm), Oct 173mm (150mm), Nov 75mm (137mm), Dec 139mm (103mm) Total for 2020 in the Stockport area was 1118mm. This compares to 1285mm for the same period last year. Equivalent rainfall figures for South Cheshire recorded by Liz Camm in Nantwich were Jan 69mm (56mm), Feb 188mm (70mm), March 52mm (118mm), April 17mm (86mm), May 15mm (35mm), June 133mm (129mm), July 69mm (95mm), Aug 120mm (37mm), Sept 62mm (103mm), Oct 156mm (92mm), Nov 78mm (97 mm), Dec 122mm (93mm). Total in 2020 for the South Cheshire area was 1081mm. This compares to 1011mm for the same period last year.

Reports have been received from Cheshire BKA Branches regarding the 2020 honey crop. Results vary, in part according to the skill of the beekeeper. Beekeepers who took off an early crop had reasonably good results but the bees seemed to use the stores up after that and reduced any later surplus. One branch reported that the best honey crops came from colonies kept in polyhives. In general, it seems to have been an average to disappointing year despite the early promise. Some beekeepers however have reported exceptional crops from the Himalayan Balsam this year.

BBKA Examinations

See the separate report by the Examinations Officer.

Conventions and meetings

The usual branch programmes of monthly meetings were halted in March this year because of the national 'lockdown' in response to the COVID epidemic. Some branches held virtual branch meetings for their members using Zoom.

Spring Convention

We were able to hold our Spring Convention, which took place just prior to the national 'lockdown'. It was held at Vale Royal Abbey Golf Club, Northwich. The speakers were Marin Anastasov and Steve Rose. Marin gave two presentations, firstly on the nutritional requirements of bees and supplemental feeding, and the second entitled 'Flowers and bees – successful advertising and target audience'. Steve gave a presentation on 'Queen rearing and bee improvement'.

Members' Show and Autumn Convention

Unfortunately this year we were unable to hold our annual Honey Show and Autumn Convention. This usually takes place in October.

However, starting in August and continuing during the autumn and winter months, the Association organised a fortnightly series of interesting and relevant presentations using Zoom software. Members could sign up for each presentation through the members only area of the Cheshire BKA website and recordings of each presentation were available for the two weeks following (also on the website) for those who wanted to listen again or who missed the original talk. Speakers have included David Buckley, Graham Royle, Stuart Hatton, Celia Davies, Bob Beards, Keith Bartlem, Pam Hatton and Karl Colyer.

Committee meetings

The Chairperson and Treasurer of each Branch are members ex officio of the County Committee. Each Branch has therefore two representatives at County level. In addition, there are twelve elected members. The elected members serve for four years on a rolling programme of elections. The Committee meets four times a year and these are usually on the third Saturday in January and the first Saturday in April (but can vary depending on when Easter occurs), September and December, normally at Frodsham Community Centre. Any relevant business to be discussed and any suggestions for consideration

should be forwarded via the Branch or elected representatives to the County Secretary for inclusion in the agenda which is posted or e-mailed out no later than one week before the meeting.

This year arrangements were varied as the April committee meeting was postponed with essential business completed by a series of telephone calls and emails between committee members. An additional meeting was held using Zoom software in July. The September and December meetings were also held by Zoom to avoid any problems with appropriate social distancing.

At the January meeting, held at Frodsham as usual, the Chairperson, John Goodwin, welcomed everyone to the first meeting of 2020. John announced that, because of commitments, he would not stand again as Chairperson at the April meeting.

The Treasurer, Simon Nuttall, presented the accounts for 2019. Currently, funds controlled directly by the Association stood at £24,487, down from £26,467 the previous year but total Association funds were £82,167. Of the total funds the County held 32%, North Cheshire 17%, South Cheshire 11%, Wirral 13%, Stockport 24% and Mid Cheshire 3%.

It was agreed that the Association would provide matched funding of up to £200 for Branches to buy books for their libraries in 2020. It was agreed that the level of capitation to Branches would remain at £5 per full adult member.

At this meeting each Branch outlined their spending plans:

North Cheshire Branch would like to reimburse trainers for use of their own apiaries for beekeeping training; discussion followed on how that might be achieved.

South Cheshire Branch was considering a remote monitoring system and a WBC hive for the branch apiary. The apiary shed had been

badly damaged during winter storms and extensive renovations or replacement would be necessary.

Stockport Branch is putting aside funds against the event that the current rent-free apiary and meeting place becomes unavailable. Apiary expenditure includes a top bar hive. The branch is planning to be actively involved with 'Trees for Bees' and to get schools involved. The Branch also raised the issue of expenses payments for members attending committee meetings.

It was subsequently decided to raise the issue of expenses payment at the April meeting, although in the light of events and holding 'virtual meetings' this discussion was deferred until such time as face-to-face meeting can again take place.

Mid Cheshire Branch was planning to purchase new trophies for their Branch honey show.

Wirral Branch planned to run a beginner course.

Lesley Jacques, our ADM Delegate, reported on the ADM meeting that was held earlier in January. The meeting this year had been very straight forward. There is a full report in this Year Book.

Arrangements for the CBKA Spring Convention and AGM were discussed. All of the office holders agreed to stand again.

Correspondence with NBU over the loss of a local seasonal bee inspector was reviewed. Graham Royle agreed to discuss this again with the Regional Bee Inspector and a letter on CBKA letterhead regarding this matter may be sent to all Cheshire MP's.

The Cheshire BKA website had been revamped and updated and the Chairperson thanked Graham Royle for his work on this.

The Cheshire Newsletter is now available on line, accessible in the members only area of the

website. It was agreed that members would be asked if they would prefer an online version only, in order to reduce costs and waste. In 2019 the cost of producing and mailing out the bi-monthly magazine was £4660. Approximately 2/3 of that cost is postage. It was noted that there is a commitment to produce the printed version as not all members had computers. There is a newsletter opt-out form on the website; those opting out would receive an email alerting them when the on-line version was available.

At the April meeting we usually elect a Chairperson. As previously reported, this meeting could not take place because of social distancing regulations. The essential business of electing a new Chairperson was carried out by circulating emails between committee members, and by telephone for any committee member who did not have access to a computer. Pete Sutcliffe was unanimously elected as Chairperson and Lesley Jacques as Vice-Chairperson.

Most of the matters arising from the previous meeting were now irrelevant as all activities had been cancelled or discussion postponed until normal meetings could be resumed.

The Treasurer reported on the finances. Most membership fees had now been received and the current bank account balance was £19,630, deposit account £1,356 and Building Society balance was £15,973. Payments totalling over £14,000 were due to be made to BBKA for capitation, to BDI and to the printers. Due to the epidemic crisis, planned courses had to be cancelled and fees returned to members.

Under Any Other Business, the committee discussed how our members may be best supported this year when ordinary branch meetings could not be held. It was suggested that the committee continue to communicate by email, with the possibility of a video conferencing. Everyone should consider producing articles for the magazine, video clips and snippets for the website. A list of people

willing to help beekeepers with advice and also people who would to go and help out with colonies if required will be compiled.

A virtual committee was held in July. Chairperson Pete Sutcliffe welcomed everyone to our first Zoom meeting.

The proposed Zoom presentations were discussed. The first of the fortnightly presentations would be given in mid August. The presentations would be available to members only and would be listed on the Cheshire BKA website with a link to access each presentation. Recordings would be available afterwards for a limited time. Speakers would be offered a fee as they would have been under normal circumstances. The annual cost of a Zoom licence is around £120 for up to 100 participants but it costs more for a higher number of participants - in the region of £600 per year.

Pete Sutcliffe agreed to find the speakers while Graham Royle will organise the technical side and hold a rehearsal session for speakers in advance of the presentation. It was envisaged that Branches would run their Beginner/ Introductory training sessions by Zoom, at least initially.

The education programme for 2020/2021 would go ahead by Zoom, at least initially. Three modules are being offered this year.

Steve Donohoe, as the new Newsletter and Year Book Editor, was co-opted to the committee for the rest of the year as was Shaun Gee as FaceBook moderator. It was noted that before being allowed access to the FaceBook page, new participants are vetted and made aware of the rules. Anyone not complying with the rules can be excluded. Cheshire BKA activities can be flagged up on FaceBook with pointers to more information on the website.

Committee members were welcomed to the September virtual Committee meeting by the Chairperson, Pete Sutcliffe.

It was noted that so far only 9 members had opted out of receiving a hard copy of the Cheshire Newsletter.

Pam and Stuart Hatton wish to retire from running the Cheshire BKA stand at RHS Tatton. Mark Phillipson had volunteered to head up the stand but had asked Pam to continue to recruit the stewards. Other tasks could possibly be shared out and will be discussed later.

The Treasurer commented that September was a low point for our bank funds. The current account balance stands at about £6,500, deposit account approximately £1,300 and there is £15,000 in the Building Society. Fees to BBKA and BDI totalling about £1,100 would be made in September and also a printer's bill of £1,500. Capitation payments to the branches were due to be paid. There had been no additional income this year with courses being cancelled. The committee agreed there will not be an increase in membership fee for 2021. However, BBKA is looking to increase capitations in 12 months' time so the situation for membership fees for 2022 would have to be reviewed in September next year.

It was noted that the BBKA have announced that the Annual Delegates' Meeting held in January will be held 'virtually' for 2021. There were no resolutions from Cheshire BKA to put to the ADM.

Shaun Gee discussed further ideas about the FaceBook page, which could be set up as a shop window to the whole County with meetings and events etc advertised on the page. People now expect information to come directly to them rather than have to look for it. The FaceBook page would be a 'brand' page and therefore would be completely under the control of the Association. It was agreed that the new page would be instituted but to also run the existing page and review the situation in 6 months. Graham Royle reported that the Zoom talks programme had been well attended with positive feedback. He offers support to people having

difficulty with using Zoom. Surveys after each event asked for feedback and suggestions.

Steve Donohoe, Newsletter Editor, said that he had appreciated a good handover from Lesley Jacques. Steve discussed some ideas for articles. Advertising rates are low and it would not be unreasonable to put them up by a small amount each year.

The December meeting was again held virtually using Zoom. After the Chairperson, Pete Sutcliffe, had welcomed everyone to the meeting he announced that David Smart who was a very well-known and respected beekeeper, both locally and nationally, had sadly died. Members sent their sympathies to David's family.

The Treasurer reported on the Bank accounts. Funds are increasing as membership renewals are starting to come in. The current account stood at £7,600, the deposit account £1,357 and Building Society funds are around £16,000. Honoraria payments were confirmed.

Pete Sutcliffe reported on the plans for beekeeper training in 2021. It is hoped that practical beekeeping sessions will be possible this year. Basic Assessment practical training would be organised when possible with theory sessions via Zoom if necessary. There are 3 BBKA exam modules courses currently underway. Stuart Hatton, Exam Secretary, said that the BBKA had come up with plans for on-line module examinations in 2021.

Lesley Jacques said that plans were in place for a 'virtual' CBKA Spring Convention to be held on 27th March 2021. Speakers will be Norman Carreck and Jamie Ellis and Mike Palmer from the United States. The CBKA AGM will also be held on-line.

It was decided to defer the CBKA auction, held in April in previous years, to 2022. The Zoom talks organised by the Association will continue in 2021. The possibilities of holding the CBKA autumn honey show 'virtually' was discussed.

There were some good ideas for suitable classes put forward to bear in mind even if the actual event can take place as usual.

Currently members who collect swarm and are on the Swarm Collectors list work to a Protocol issued by the BBKA. It was agreed that this document contains some elements that are a little vague and that it would be useful to have a Cheshire BKA Swarm Collectors' protocol with tighter guidelines.

The BBKA Annual Delegates Meeting is to be held in January, an on-line meeting this time. Committee members discussed the various propositions that had been put forward and agreed what our Delegate's, Lesley Jacques, response should be to each of these. As usual a full report of the ADM will be made at the next CBKA Annual General Meeting in March.

Other Shows and Events

All public shows and events were cancelled this year. There were, however, still many enquiries from members of the public wishing to start up beekeeping and looking for advice as well as the usual range of questions about bumble and solitary bees, wasps and other stinging insects. The Committee thanks all those who assisted in answering questions and helping enquirers to access the information they needed, as well as those who helped members who were unable to care for their bees themselves this year due to the epidemic precautions.

During 2020 we sadly lost three of our members; Albert Jameson (N. Cheshire), Dr Naomi Tobias (N. Cheshire) David Smart (Wirral). Please do let the Secretary know of any members who pass on so that as an Association we can collectively pay our respects.

We wish you every success for the coming year 2021.

Pete Sutcliffe, Chairperson
Elizabeth Camm, Hon. General Secretary

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EDUCATION SECRETARY'S REPORT

It is the aim of CBKA to support all its members in improving their beekeeping skills and knowledge.

The 'Introductory Courses' are provided by each of the Branches. This year, all the courses were full if not over-subscribed. Unfortunately, the practical sessions, which are the most important part of these courses, had to be cancelled due to the pandemic. With Covid 19, there have been varying approaches to the problem of delivering the courses in 2021. Stockport Branch is intending to hold the course face-to-face with appropriate distancing and safety measures. North and South Branches are delivering the course, at least initially, via Zoom.

Basic Assessment

Again, the preparation courses towards the Basic are usually delivered by the Branches, but they had to be cancelled. If face-to-face meetings are still impossible or unadvisable in May of next year, we will offer a course via Zoom, to be followed by practical sessions as soon as possible.

Study Groups

Three study groups are active in Cheshire at the moment involving about 30 members from all five Branches basing their studies on the syllabuses for Modules 1 'Honeybee management', 5,

'Honeybee Biology' and 6 'Honeybee behaviour'. These have had to be held via Zoom for obvious reasons. However some advantages of Zoom are very apparent: nobody has to drive long distances on winter evenings, participants can use powerpoint to present their work, and the group can be split into 'breakout rooms' where participants can work on a topic in smaller groups.

We organise the Study Groups so that, over two years, all the modules from 1 to 7 are covered. We will put on a Study Group for Module 8 (the final Module which recaps all the others) if and when there is demand. The emphasis in Cheshire is on support and training in practical beekeeping, in order to help people enjoy the craft. We will fully support those who, later, feel they are ready to try for an examination.

All other training had to be cancelled. We look forward to next year, in the hope that some "hands on" training will again be possible.

All training opportunities will be advertised in the magazine and on the website. Please get in touch with me with any suggestions as to how we could support your beekeeping.

Pete Sutcliffe
Education Secretary

PUBLIC BENEFIT FROM CBKA ACTIVITIES

Cheshire Beekeepers' Association is a registered charity, the objectives of which are to promote and further the craft of beekeeping in Cheshire. CBKA endeavours to do this for the benefit both of its members and the public, by providing support, education and training for beekeepers at all levels and also by promoting and providing educational initiatives in beekeeping to a wider audience, including participation in local shows and events, presentations to interested groups and parties including schools and special

interest groups. The association also provides a swarm coordination and collection service which helps to promote the responsible face of beekeeping.

The annual programme of events and activities reflects the association trustees' commitment to the charitable purpose of CBKA, and to ensuring a benefit to the wider public in line with the public benefit guidance as outlined by the Charity Commission.

EXAMINATION SECRETARY'S REPORT

With no examinations taking place in 2020 due to the Coronavirus pandemic, changes are being brought into place for the 2021 season to accommodate beekeepers wishing to take the module exams and continue expanding their knowledge on beekeeping.

The Examination Secretary, Val Francis has been doing this job for over 15 years and over the last few years Val has been working towards retiring and passing the Examination Secretary job on.

Over the years interest in taking module exams has increased by over 300% from 2006 to 2019 and has resulted in splitting the job into Examination Secretary and Examination Officer.

After advertising the position of Examination Secretary, Nicky Campbell who is a member of Sheffield Beekeepers, has been appointed as Examination Secretary and started the job on November 1st.

Module Exams 2021

The exam papers will not change, they will still have the same layout and type of questions.

Only online module exams will be available in the spring 2021. We hope to offer some hand written opportunities in the Autumn but this will depend on the COVID-9 situation.

Candidates will be allowed to sit a maximum of two modules.

The closing dates for the new entries will be **January 31st 2021** to allow more time for setting up and training.

The date for the exams will move to **24th/25th April 2021** – probably 24th April but at this stage we are not ruling out two days. This is to allow more time for the preparation.

Candidates and invigilators will receive training on the system and computer access will be checked beforehand. Invigilators for the online modules will be arranged centrally.

If you require any more information, please contact me on hattonstuart1@gmail.com or 01925 263023

Stuart Hatton
Examination Secretary

CBKA AUTUMN CONVENTION REPORT 2020

This did not take place in 2020 due to the social distancing restrictions put in place by the government in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

CBKA ANNUAL HONEY SHOW REPORT 2020

This did not take place in 2020 due to the social distancing restrictions put in place by the government in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

BEE DISEASE REPORT FOR 2020

The Covid pandemic has made the task of inspecting colonies during 2020 even more challenging than usual for our bee inspectors.

For the second year in a row, there were no cases of notifiable disease found in Cheshire. This does not mean that notifiable disease is not present, only that it was not found. Despite the difficult conditions for the inspectors, the number of apiaries inspected in Cheshire increased slightly (59 vs. 56) although the number of colonies did drop somewhat (301 vs. 347). This is a remarkable performance by the inspection team, considering the social distancing requirements which have had to be observed.

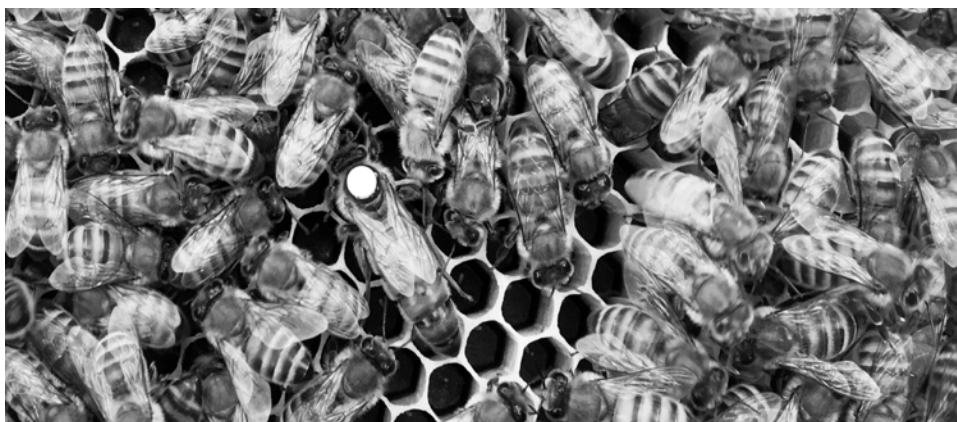
Varroa continues to be a significant threat to our bees. All members should regularly monitor mite levels and take appropriate action if damaging levels are reached.

Only one Asian Hornet nest was found this year, located in Hampshire. Members should take time to learn how to identify Asian and European hornets. You can find more information about this on Beebase at www.nationalbeeunit.com.

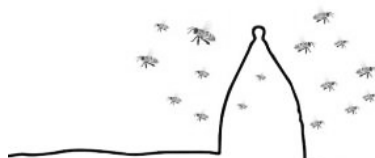
As a result of Brexit, new rules apply to the import or export of honey bees as from 1st January 2021. If you intend to import or export queens or colonies you must follow the new regulations. You can find more details by searching the internet for: www.gov.uk/guidance/importing-animals

Please make sure you are registered on Beebase, and that your contact details are up to date, as this will ensure you can be notified immediately if any notifiable disease or Asian Hornets are found in the area and will help the National Bee Unit to manage any outbreaks.

Graham Royle



*The queen marking colour for 2021 is **WHITE***



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SOUTH CHESHIRE BRANCH REPORT 2020

Branch Chair:	Pete Sutcliffe	Show Manager:	Alan Smith
Vice Chair:	Liz Camm	Librarian:	Julia Forbes-Leith
Secretary:	Sheila Hargreaves	Other Members:	Nikki Dakin
Treasurer:	Dee Smith		Hayley Dutton
Apiary Manager:	Liz Camm		Sydney Hollinshead
Education Secretary:	Isobel Large		Helen Palacz
Website Manager:	Marine Godot		Neil Williams

This has been a challenging year for us all with much of our daily lives transformed by restrictions, yet in beekeeping some aspects of life continued normally with the bees benefitting from the good weather and beekeepers tending their hives both at home and in out apiaries.

The apiary team moved some hives to members' homes and the remainder were cared for in the Bradwall Apiary. Early promise of a record honey crop turned into a disappointing July and August with starvation warnings from Bee Base.

Himalayan balsam boosted winter stores in some areas. Reports from members suggest an average crop overall.

We started the year in January with our AGM followed by '10 Minute Talks' and then in February we had the pleasure of John Whitaker's talk called, 'The Ethics of Beekeeping.' The subject is many faceted and John illustrated the choices beekeepers have to make and how they impact on the health and welfare of the bees, the beekeeper and society in general.

In February we were encouraged to get to know the many and different butterflies in our local area by Tony Parker from the Liverpool Museum and Mammal Society and, as it turned out, we all spent a lot more time exploring our local countryside and gardens in the spring and summer of 2020.

Sadly, in April our busy programme of meetings and events for the summer was cancelled. A new

phenomenon, Zoom, took hold and we were able to enjoy beekeeping activities online. SCBKA held several informal branch meetings where members could discuss and support each other. To end the year members enjoyed an end of year social complete with our annual quiz but sadly without refreshments and Sydney's much enjoyed auction.



The village hall is no longer our meeting place

In February SCBKA was informed that we could no longer use the village hall for our meetings. We have been truly blessed all these years to have both the apiary and the excellent hall so near to each other. Our apiary will continue to be located at Bradwall with Mr Willis' kind permission and the committee is searching for another venue which offers the same advantages as Bradwall.

The Beginners' Course managed to teach nine of the planned ten sessions and the mentoring of beekeepers in their early careers has continued despite the restrictions we all lived under.

Liz Camm

NORTH CHESHIRE BRANCH REPORT 2020

Branch Chair:	Stuart Hatton	Apiary Management Committee:	
Secretary:	John Saddler		Peter Woodhead
Treasurer:	Peter Woodhead		Paul Williams
Training Coordinator:	Maria Heywood		Julia Young
Show Manager:	Graham Platt		Polly Smith
Librarian:	Cathy Ellis	Other Members:	Pamela Hatton
			Kelvin Heywood

The year started well with an excellently attended AGM and Social. The Committee having been re-elected en bloc the business of the AGM proceeded efficiently and there was plenty of time left for the attendees to relax over an excellent meal.

As usual the Committee, and John Sadler in particular, had worked hard to produce a full and varied programme of Branch activities, which started in February with an interesting and entertaining talk from Dr Paul Cross on Tracking Insect Pollinators.

By then the theory element of the Branch training programme for beginner beekeepers was well underway, with a capacity attendance of keen learners on eight Monday evenings throughout January and February and into March, with the last meeting being held on the evening of the 16th, too late to be cancelled in the wake of the Health Secretary's announcement, but a full week before the national 'lockdown' became mandatory.

Somewhat ironically the first branch event to be cancelled was the 'Disease Evening', depriving members of the opportunity to have their own bees checked for Nosema and to learn about the signs, symptoms and treatments of other pests and diseases that all beekeepers should know about.

Hopes that the preparations for practical training and monthly meetings would not all be wasted were soon dashed, and instead beekeepers

across the County became accustomed to meeting remotely, with North Cheshire members taking advantage of the talks arranged by County, and other Branches, as well as national organisations. It was a matter of some concern that no practical training for beginners could take place, but several individual members of the training team were able to mentor and help out those who had already acquired bees.

Beekeepers were fortunate to have a directive from the BBKA early on which stated that we were allowed to attend to our bees no matter what restrictions were imposed on other activities, and the layout of the hives at the Branch Training Apiary meant that it was relatively easy for 2 managers to attend at a time while remaining socially distanced, so weekly inspections continued throughout the year, and the substantial honey crop was harvested and quickly sold.

In September the Branch Committee took advantage of an easing of regulations to hold a committee meeting in the now COVID safe Frodsham Community Centre, but with the need to wear masks, sit metres apart and have no refreshments, it was an uncomfortable experience and increased the resolve to revise plans for the rest of the year and for 2021, to provide as many of the usual activities as possible by Zoom.

In following weeks the Branch acquired its own Zoom licence and Pamela Hatton ascended a very steep learning curve to become proficient in

managing meetings to include live presentations, video presentations, breakout meetings, and question and answer sessions with both large and small audiences.

By this means, the Branch was able to invite members to the last meeting of the year in November, which was a lively open discussion session, and the training Committee met a number of times to prepare for a smooth delivery of the 2021 beginners' theory course. This was largely a case of checking out technical matters, as Training Co-ordinator Maria Heywood has worked tirelessly throughout the year, keeping in contact with the 2020 beginners and ensuring that everything is ready for the 2021 course which already has 20 participants, and will, as usual, run for eight weeks from January to March.

Plans are underway for a Zoomed AGM, and a 2021 meetings programme which can be flexible enough to return to in-person meetings as soon as circumstances allow.

Thanks to our hard working Secretary, relations with the Frodsham Community Centre remain strong which means that the COVID safe venue can again be used for Branch meetings as well as some County and National meetings such as the excellent First Aid for Beekeepers course, held in February this year.

Whatever happens in 2021 many lessons have been learnt this year that will help the Branch Committee to continue to serve the thriving community of enthusiastic beekeepers in North Cheshire. Maybe in 2021 we can learn how to control the weather.

Polly Smith

MID CHESHIRE BRANCH REPORT 2020

Branch Chair:	Lesley Parker
Secretary:	Stuart Forbes
Treasurers:	Sarah & Nick Johnson
Show Manager:	Stuart Forbes
Show Steward:	Lesley Parker

Librarian:	Dave Wright
Other Members:	Lesley Jacques Shaun Gee John van Suchtelen

The year started with our branch AGM in January. Bob Beards resigned from the committee, but the other committee members were re-elected en masse. Much of the discussion focussed on increasing our membership base and it was agreed that we should make greater use of social media to publicise our activities. Shaun Gee, who has expertise in this area, was elected to the committee.

Our new membership drive has been successful because, despite the disruption to our meetings caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, our membership increased from 41 to 50 in 2020. We have welcomed 13 new members this year, but sadly a few of our existing members did not renew their subscriptions.

At our February meeting Karl Colyer presented a talk entitled 'The Nuc Box: An Essential Requirement' during which he described how a couple of nuc boxes can help us deal with many of the challenges we face in beekeeping, such as winter losses and emergency queen rearing. Karl, who typically manages 50+ colonies and 15+ nucs, demonstrated the various set-ups and working techniques employed in his apiaries.

We decided to build on the success of last year's event by again holding our beginners meeting in March such that, following a brief introduction to the craft, new beekeepers could immediately start a formal training programme and even acquire their own colony of bees in the same season. However, despite these best laid plans, the start of the first COVID-19 lockdown soon

after this meeting meant that few new beekeepers were able to commence any formal training.

The meeting itself included a short introductory talk, details of local training courses, a display of beekeeping equipment, honey and beeswax products, and the opportunity for potential new beekeepers to ask questions and discuss the craft with existing branch members. Publicising the event on social media and in the local press attracted a lot of interest which most probably led to the increased branch membership.

Our programme of physical meetings and apiary visits for the remainder of 2020 had to be aborted owing to the restrictions arising from the pandemic. Based on the positive responses we received to a Survey Monkey mailing conducted in April, it was clear that our members wished to maintain contact by using online video meetings in place of physical events.

We therefore held our first Mid-Cheshire Branch Zoom Meeting in May at which Lesley Jacques presented an interesting and informative talk on 'The Marvellous Honeybee'. Lesley explained how, ever since starting beekeeping, she has been intrigued by the remarkable lives and capabilities of these insects and illustrated why with many interesting facts and figures on a typical colony. Lesley presented this talk again at the CBKA's inaugural on-line meeting in August when the County followed our initiative of holding meetings via Zoom.

Having received much positive feedback to our first Zoom meeting we decided to continue holding online events with our first virtual apiary visit in June. This involved a visit to Shaun Gee's apiary in Hartford during which Shaun and his daughter Freya told us about their bees and attended to the filming while Lesley Jacques carried out the hive inspections. Clearly this live and remote event was technically more challenging than our other online meetings, but we were blessed with a beautiful summer evening and well-behaved bees. The only

drawback was that, unlike at our normal apiary visits, we were unable to join Shaun, Lesley and Freya for 'al fresco' tea and cakes following the hive inspections.

At our July online meeting Mark Phillipson described his method of queen rearing using mini-nucs. He showed a short video recorded in his own apiary with the help of his wife, Andrea, which illustrated the various steps they employ to raise queens. Following the presentation Mark acted as the chairman for a highly participative Q&A/discussion session on queen rearing and other subjects. Many of our members were able to benefit from his considerable knowledge and experience of beekeeping.

The ongoing series of CBKA online meetings, which started in August, has included two presentations originally scheduled for our April and October meetings: Stuart Hatton on 'Garden Planting for Bees' and Bob Beards on 'Queens for Pennies'. Given the wide availability of Zoom speaker events, we decided to change the balance of our branch meetings for the remainder of this year to place greater emphasis on Q&A/discussion sessions.

At our November Zoom meeting our members discussed a range of subjects including checking stores and feeding, varroa treatments, problems with wasps and new equipment acquisitions.

We were unable to hold our annual honey show although in hindsight this might have been fortunate given that members indicated a large variation in this year's harvest with several reporting very poor yields. Some members have, with adherence to social distancing rules, been able to visit new beekeepers this year and assist them with their first hive inspections.

Clearly 2020 has been a difficult time for everyone. The pandemic disrupted most of our planned events, but hopefully we will see some form of "normality" return in the course of 2021.

Stuart Forbes

STOCKPORT BRANCH REPORT 2020

Branch Chair:	Brian Gee	Programme Manager:	Catharine Edwardes-
Secretary:	Peter Carefoot		Evans
Treasurer:	Alistair Taylor	Social Secretary:	TBA
Apiary Manager:	Roy Brocklehurst	Librarian:	Paul Wheeldon
Education Secretary:	Alan Towse	Other Members:	Colin Booth
Show Manager:	Pat Booth		Liz Sparkes

At the end of the year Branch membership was 219.

The branch started the year on a strong financial footing with a balance of £20,630. The main income streams for 2020 were once again the training courses and sales of honey and bees.

The beekeeping year 2020 started well enough but activities were quickly curtailed with the national lockdown in March. The Beginners' Theory Course was completed at Aquinas College, Stockport with 28 students. Alas, the practical course scheduled for May was cancelled, as was an attempt to complete the course at the end of July.

In February a 4 week beekeeping course was successfully completed with Manchester and Stockport Council Pest Control teams. Manchester Council has established an apiary and intend to capture swarms offering a more bee friendly approach to the general public. The course to Salford University academics was cancelled after one week when the university closed due to lockdown.

In March a presentation from Prof Steven Martin was squeezed in just before lockdown. Whilst this was primarily about the varroa mite and the virus it spreads, Steven took the time to explain the principles of "R" rate spread with occasional reference to coronavirus. A very informative and thought provoking talk from one of the world's leading experts on varroa disease in honey bees.

In September the students at Bramhall High School were delighted to get their first honey

crop from the apiary established in 2019.

In the Woodbank Apiary, colony management continued during the lockdown through a small, regular group of volunteers from the Committee. Meeting on Wednesday or Thursday each week the colonies were managed successfully through to the end of the season. The branch entered winter with 9 national colonies, one nucleus colony and one top bar hive.

In November solar panels were added to the container roof to provide power for lights to make working safer during the winter months. The apiary fence was painted and the area generally tidied.

The honey yield from the Woodbank hives was 232lbs, down on the 2019 figure of 315lbs. Reports from beekeepers in the Stockport region suggest the crop was below average. The early summer expectations were dashed by the wet weather. Some colonies near to balsam were 'rescued' with the long flowering season. At the end of September the branch supers were extracted at Woodbank over 2 nights for a restricted number of beginners, to demonstrate the charms of de-capping and spinning.

The year ended with a successful Beekeepers' Question Time on Zoom.

Finally, congratulations and thanks to Roy Brocklehurst and Graham Royle who were given life membership of Cheshire Beekeepers for their outstanding contribution to beekeeping.

Peter Carefoot



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WIRRAL BRANCH REPORT 2020

Branch Chair:	Nigel Brierley	Prog. Secretary:	Nigel Brierley
Vice Chair:	Barbara Bryant	Other Members:	Paul Manning
Secretary:	Janine Unwin		Gillian Medley
Treasurer:	Nick Ashton		Avril Rowley
Education Secretary:	Nigel Brierley		Graham Wilson
	Marshall Pugh		

The year started off smoothly in January with no blood spilt at our AGM. February saw Joyce Nisbet's talk about what to expect in your second year of beekeeping. As the corona virus situation unfolded, the remainder of our programme had to be cancelled due to Government restrictions.

Our beginners' course started in January with twenty eight very keen students, most of whom attended every week. This ran until March when lockdown on the 20th March prevented delivery of the final session on the very next day! This will now go ahead via zoom; thanks are due to Avril, Janine and Graham for organising this. A big thank you is also due to Graham for revamping the branch website and Facebook page. Our website links to the County website, advertising upcoming events and providing information to the members.

During the summer we have all followed the guidelines, and done our best with the "I have a swarm of bees" calls.

Demand for next year's beginners' course is quite positive, with a recent inquiry from a local secondary school.

Next year's AGM will be via Zoom as will the theory segment of the Beginners' course. If restrictions are still in place, we have discussed the possibility of delivering the practical sessions of the beginners' course using more demonstrators, enabling us to have groups of two or three.

Fingers crossed 2021 delivers some improvement.

Nigel Brierley

EQUIPMENT HELD BY THE ASSOCIATION AVAILABLE ON LOAN

These must be collected in person and returned by the agreed date.

Observation hive	Pam and Stuart Hatton. (Tel 01925 263023)
Honey extractors	Most branches hold honey extractors for hire to members for a nominal sum. Please contact your branch secretary for details.
Library books	A selection of library books is available for loan from branch libraries. Please contact your branch librarian for details. These are listed in the branch reports.
Archive materials	A selection of CBKA archive materials is held by Peter Sutcliffe. (Tel: 01477 535374)
Microscopy equipment	Microscopes and associated equipment are held by Graham Royle. (Tel 01260 252042)

Please note that the borrower is responsible for the responsible use and safe return of all equipment borrowed.

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TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2020

The following pages show the financial accounts for Cheshire Beekeepers' Association and its branches for the year ended 31 December 2020.

The next page shows the position of Cheshire Beekeepers' Association in total, that is to say, the sum of the County, its five branches and the endowments given for the benefit of members. These show total funds of £91,602.01 compared to funds of £85,852.97 at 31 December 2019.

Including the capitation payments paid by the County to the branches totalling £3,000, all of the branches except for Stockport branch made surpluses— Stockport's loss resulted from the timing of its training courses which were impacted by the pandemic. 2020 was a year like no other, and branches responded by sizing their expenditure to meet with the reduced activity allowed, and by making the most of technology to host meetings. The bees in branch apiaries continued to work regardless of Coronavirus, and branch apiaries produced well providing another source of branch income.

The County produced a surplus of £2,238.89; membership was little effected by coronavirus with most people having joined before the first

lockdown in April, also expenditure reduced as the more costly physical events were replaced by less costly virtual events. North Cheshire's surplus was £669.49; South Cheshire's surplus was £308.53; Wirral's surplus was £3,442.82; Stockport's loss was £960.87 and Mid Cheshire's surplus was £35.67.

Taking all of the branches, the County, and funds given for the benefit CBKA together, Cheshire Beekeepers Association made a combined surplus of £5,749.04 in 2020 (2019 surplus of £3,355.43).

During the year the Committee reviewed and discussed the Charity's reserves. Whilst there is no fixed policy on reserves, the Committee review these annually taking into account branch and County spending plans, the movements in BBKA capitation and overall membership.

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Charity SORP FRSE.

Simon Nuttall
Honorary County Treasurer

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS STATEMENT

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Cheshire Beekeepers Association for the year ended 31 December 2020.

I have completed my examination and I can confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect: Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Association

The accounts do not accord with those records; or

The accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by Charities.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination.

John Sheekey B.Sc ACMA ICPA
Honorary County Auditor, 17 January 2021

CHESHIRE BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	UNRESTRICTED		
	<i>County</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>South</i>
	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES			
Voluntary income	30,518.88	302.00	288.94
Activities for generating funds	1,017.60	40.00	183.00
Investment income	113.84	7.28	9.18
Incoming resources from charitable activities	797.20	1,970.37	1,172.50
Other incoming resources	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total incoming resources	32,447.52	2,319.65	1,653.62
RESOURCES EXPENDED			
Costs of generating voluntary income	(23,490.40)	(191.90)	(672.40)
Fundraising trading: cost of goods sold	0.00	(28.80)	(5.94)
Cost of charitable activities	(501.85)	(880.16)	(1,440.56)
Governance costs	(1,526.00)	0.00	0.00
Other resources expended	(1,510.38)	(1,199.30)	(41.19)
Total resources expended	(27,028.63)	(2,300.16)	(2,160.09)
Net in/out resources before transfers	5,418.89	19.49	(506.47)
TRANSFERS			
Branch capitation	(3,000.00)	650.00	635.00
Branch transfers	(180.00)	0.00	180.00
NET MOVEMENT IN CASH FUNDS	2,238.89	669.49	308.53
OPENING TOTAL ASSETS	24,467.76	14,763.82	9,807.82
Cash funds	26,706.65	15,433.31	10,116.35
Investment assets	20.00	0.00	0.00
Liabilities	0.00	0.00	0.00
CLOSING TOTAL ASSETS	26,726.65	15,433.31	10,116.35

FUNDS
ENDOWMENT FUNDS

<i>Wirral</i>	<i>Stockport</i>	<i>Mid Cheshire</i>	<i>Griffiths</i>	<i>W Menzies</i>	TOTAL
£	£	£	£	£	£
0.00	93.10	44.00	0.00	0.00	31,246.92
0.00	0.00	34.00	0.00	0.00	1,274.60
0.00	63.10	0.00	9.49	4.93	207.82
2,880.00	1,157.00	15.00	0.00	0.00	7,992.07
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2,880.00	1,313.20	93.00	9.49	4.93	40,721.41
423.33	(873.09)	(132.00)	0.00	0.00	(24,936.46)
(32.00)	(52.00)	0.00	0.00	0.00	(118.74)
(390.00)	(2,250.39)	(105.33)	0.00	0.00	(5,568.29)
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(1,526.00)
(23.51)	(48.50)	0.00	0.00	0.00	(2,822.88)
(22.18)	(3,223.98)	(237.33)	0.00	0.00	(34,972.37)
2,857.82	(1,910.78)	(144.33)	9.49	4.93	5,749.04
585.00	950.00	180.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3,442.82	(960.78)	35.67	9.49	4.93	5,749.04
11,539.70	20,630.84	2,685.08	1,275.11	662.84	85,832.97
14,982.52	19,670.06	2,720.75	1,284.60	667.77	91,582.01
00.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	20.00
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
14,982.52	19,670.06	2,720.75	1,284.60	667.77	91,602.01

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - COUNTY

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	County 2020 £	Griffiths 2020 £	W Menzies 2020 £
INCOMING RESOURCES			
Voluntary income			
Subscriptions	22,280.27		
Gift Aid	3,733.01		
BDI premiums via subscriptions	2,335.60		
Research fund income from subscriptions	1,340.70		
Donations for Bee Charities received in subs	759.30		
Donations	70.00		
Activities for generating funds			
Advertising	1,017.60		
Autumn Convention raffle & sponsorship			
RHS prize money			
Investment income			
Interest income	113.84	9.49	4.93
Incoming resources from charitable activities			
Conventions	146.88		
Training courses	470.32		
South Cheshire beginners course	180.00		
Other incoming resources			
Miscellaneous	0.00		
Total incoming resources	32,447.52	9.49	4.93
RESOURCES EXPENDED			
Costs of generating voluntary income			
Newsletter costs	(7,022.80)		
Room hire	(96.00)		
BBKA Capitalisation	(11,936.00)		
BDI payments	(2,335.60)		
Payment to BBKA research fund	(1,340.70)		
Payment to Bees Abroad from subscriptions	(759.30)		
Postage	0.00		
	(8,604.00)	8.12	4.22
	34,806.29	8.12	4.22
	(8,604.00)		
	(65.00)		
	(11,584.50)		
	(2,162.90)		
	(1,205.40)		
	(484.55)		
	0.00		

Treasurer: SK Nuttall; Audited: J Sheekey

Cost of Charitable Activities				
Convention costs			(3,340.10)	
Training course running costs	(180.00)		(1,909.79)	
Exam fees	(304.00)		(412.00)	
Trophy engraving	(17.85)		(234.99)	
Grittiths prize			(40.00)	
Governance costs				
Year book printing	(1,526.00)			
Other resources expended				
Donations				
National honey show membership	(80.00)		(150.00)	
Honoraria	(870.00)		(810.00)	
Miscellaneous costs	(1150.00)		(71.40)	
Hearing loop			(54.97)	
Banners and posters			(511.20)	
Website costs	(410.38)		(75.04)	0.00
Total resources expended				0.00
Net in/out resources before transfers			(31,715.84)	8.12
TRANSFERS:			3,090.45	
Branch capitation from County			(2,920.00)	
Branch transfer	(3,000.00)		(2,115.00)	
Library Grant	(180.00)		(173.90)	8.12
NET MOVEMENT IN CASH FUNDS			(2,118.45)	1,266.99
				658.62
Cash Funds				
Opening cash funds	24,467.76	1,275.11	26,586.21	
Closing cash and bank				
Investment Assets				
War Stock	26,706.65	1,284.60	24,467.76	1,275.11
Creditors Bees for Development			20.00	
TOTAL FUNDS	26,726.65	1,284.60	24,487.76	1,275.11
				662.84
				662.84

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - NORTH CHESHIRE

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER	North 2020 £	North 2019 £
INCOMING RESOURCES:		
Voluntary income		
Admissions	302.00	495.00
Activities for generating funds		
Raffle	40.00	226.00
Investment income		
Interest income	7.28	13.57
Incoming resources from charitable activities		
Training courses	900.00	2,890.00
Honey and bee sales	1,015.37	1,004.66
Value of apiary honey used for payments		
Extractor rental income	55.00	25.00
Total incoming resources	2,319.55	4,654.23
RESOURCES EXPENDED:		
Costs of generating voluntary income		
Running expenses	(115.10)	
Room hire		(816.00)
Speakers expenses	(76.80)	(229.80)
BDI payments		(17.00)
Fundraising trading: cost of goods sold		
Catering/ refreshments/ raffle	(28.80)	(43.50)
Special celebration costs		(34.98)
Cost of charitable activities		
Apiary running costs	(830.43)	(399.38)
Apiary rent		
Training course running costs	(49.73)	(786.10)
Training Equipment		(618.58)
Autumn convention costs		(28.80)
Show judge & trophy engraving		(37.50)
Honey show printing and stationery		
Other resources expended		
Miscellaneous costs	(603.60)	(60.00)
AGM costs	(595.70)	(700.00)
Total resources expended	(2,300.16)	(3,771.64)
Net incoming/outgoing resources before transfers	19.49	882.59
TRANSFERS		
Branch capitation from County	650.00	675.00
NET MOVEMENT IN CASH FUNDS	669.49	1,557.59
Opening cash funds	14,763.82	13,206.23
Closing cash at bank	15,433.31	14,763.82
TOTAL FUNDS	15,433.31	14,763.82

BRANCH APIARY STOCK NOTE:

Branch apiary honey b/fwd at 01 January (lbs)	58
This year's branch apiary honey harvest	275
Sales of honey in the year	290
Branch apiary honey c/fwd at 31 December (lbs)	43

Treasurer: P. Woodhead
Auditor: P. Smith

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - SOUTH CHESHIRE

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020	South 2020 £	South 2019 £
INCOMING RESOURCES:		
Voluntary income		
Admissions	8.94	28.00
Donations	280.00	250.00
Activities for generating funds		
Raffle	183.00	753.50
Investment income		
Interest income	9.18	8.78
Incoming resources from charitable activities		
Training courses	135.00	1,360.50
Honey and bee sales	927.50	570.00
Value of apiary honey used for payments	110.00	90.00
Other sales	0.00	0.00
Total incoming resources	1,653.62	3,370.78
RESOURCES EXPENDED:		
Costs of generating voluntary income		
Room hire		(360.00)
Speakers expenses	(190.00)	(515.60)
Printing & stationery	(459.40)	
BDI payments	(23.00)	(11.50)
Fundraising trading: cost of goods sold		
Catering/ refreshments/ raffle	(5.94)	(17.00)
Cost of charitable activities		
Apiary running costs	(364.82)	(519.71)
Apiary rent	(100.00)	(81.00)
Training course running costs	(607.85)	(1,307.59)
Training Equipment	(250.00)	(335.39)
Dinner costs	(117.89)	(281.72)
Library		(487.26)
Autumn convention costs		(55.00)
Honey show prizes		(204.99)
Other resources expended		
Miscellaneous costs	(31.19)	
Auditor	(10.00)	(9.00)
Total resources expended	(2,160.09)	(4,184.76)
Net incoming/outgoing resources before transfers	(504.47)	(813.98)
TRANSFERS		
Branch capitation from County	635.00	560.00
Other branch transfers	180.00	2,115.00
NET MOVEMENT IN CASH FUNDS	308.53	1,861.02
Opening cash funds	9,807.82	7,946.80
Closing cash at bank	10,116.35	9,807.82
TOTAL FUNDS	10,116.35	9,807.82
BRANCH APIARY STOCK NOTE:		
Branch apiary honey b/fwd at 01 January (lbs)	103	
This year's branch apiary honey harvest	167	
Sales of honey in the year	(193)	
Payment in honey - to non CBKA members	(22)	
Branch apiary honey c/fwd at 31 December (lbs)	55	

Treasurer: D. Smith
Auditor: L. Stone

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - MID CHESHIRE

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020	<i>Mid Cheshire</i> 2020 £	<i>Mid Cheshire</i> 2019 £
INCOMING RESOURCES:		
Voluntary income		
Admissions	44.00	121.00
Activities for generating funds		
Raffle	34.00	141.00
Incoming resources from charitable activities		
Donations		400.00
Extractor rental income	15.00	5.00
Total incoming resources	93.00	667.00
RESOURCES EXPENDED:		
Costs of generating voluntary income		
Room hire	(132.00)	(162.00)
Speakers expenses		(230.00)
Cost of charitable activities		
Convention costs	(25.00)	(50.00)
Miscellaneous	(80.33)	(815.56)
Honey show printing and stationery		(33.75)
Total resources expended	(237.33)	(1,291.31)
Net incoming/outgoing resources before transfers	(144.33)	(624.31)
TRANSFERS		
Branch capitation from County	180.00	210.00
NET MOVEMENT IN CASH FUNDS	35.67	(414.31)
Opening cash funds	2,685.08	3,099.39
Closing cash at bank	2,720.75	2,685.08
TOTAL FUNDS	2,720.75	2,685.08

Treasurer: S. Johnson
Auditor: R. Ibbett

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - STOCKPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020	Stockport 2020 £	Stockport 2019 £
INCOMING RESOURCES:		
Voluntary income		
Admissions	93.10	253.08
Show entry fees		
Donations		3.00
Investment income		
Interest income	63.10	57.78
Incoming resources from charitable activities		
Training courses	100.00	3,825.00
Honey and bee sales	1,005.00	749.00
Other sales	24.00	181.50
Extractor rental income	28.00	62.00
Equipment sales		
50th anniversary celebration		1,474.00
Total incoming resources	1,313.20	6,605.36
RESOURCES EXPENDED:		
Costs of generating voluntary income		
Running expenses	(281.59)	(272.84)
Room hire	(450.00)	(835.00)
Speakers expenses	(130.00)	(244.00)
Printing, stationery & postage		
BDI payments	(11.50)	(23.00)
Fundraising trading: cost of goods sold		
Catering/ refreshments/ raffle	(6.00)	(351.04)
Convention costs	(46.00)	(50.00)
Dinner costs		
Cost of charitable activities		
Apiary running costs	(1,350.83)	(888.80)
Training course running costs	(721.56)	(169.78)
Training Equipment		
Library books		(173.90)
Honey show printing & stationery		(120.00)
Show judge & trophy engraving	(72.00)	(130.00)
50th anniversary celebration costs	(106.00)	(3,097.10)
Other resources expended		
Donations		(80.00)
Miscellaneous costs		(23.00)
AGM costs	(48.50)	(33.00)
Total resources expended	(3,223.98)	(6,491.46)
Net incoming/outgoing resources before transfers	(1,910.78)	113.90
TRANSFERS		
Branch capitation from County	950.00	925.00
Library grant		173.90
NET MOVEMENT IN CASH FUNDS	(960.78)	1,212.80
Opening cash funds	20,630.84	19,418.04
Closing cash at bank	19,670.06	20,630.84
TOTAL FUNDS	19,670.06	20,630.84

BRANCH APIARY STOCK NOTE:

Branch apiary honey b/fwd at 01 January (lbs)	207
This year's branch apiary honey harvest	232
Sales of honey in the year	(322)
Gifts of honey	(4)
Branch apiary honey c/fwd at 31 December (lbs)	113

Treasurer: A. Taylor
Auditor: L. Hudson

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - WIRRAL

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020	Wirral General 2020 £	Wirral Training 2020 £	Wirral Branch 2020 £
INCOMING RESOURCES:			
Voluntary income			
Admissions			
Activities for generating funds			
Raffle			
Incoming resources from charitable activities			
Training courses	2,610.00	270.00	2,880.00
Equipment sales			
Total incoming resources	2,610.00	270.00	2,880.00
RESOURCES EXPENDED:			
Costs of generating voluntary income			
Room hire			
Speakers expenses	423.33	423.33	423.33
Postage costs			
Fundraising trading: cost of goods sold			
Catering/ refreshments/ raffle	(32.00)		(32.00)
Cost of charitable activities			
Training course running costs	(390.00)		(390.00)
Training Equipment			
Miscellaneous costs			
Other resources expended			
Miscellaneous costs	(23.51)		(23.51)
Total resources expended	(22.18)	0.00	(22.18)
Net incoming/outgoing resources before transfers	2,487.82	270.00	2,857.82
TRANSFERS			
Branch capitation from County	585.00		585.00
NET MOVEMENT IN CASH FUNDS	3,172.82	270.00	3,442.82
Opening cash funds	4,600.85	6,938.85	11,539.70
Closing cash at bank	7,773.67	7,208.85	14,982.52
TOTAL FUNDS	7,773.67	7,208.85	14,982.52

BRANCH APIARY STOCK NOTE:

Branch apiary honey b/fwd at 01 January (lbs)	0
This year's branch apiary honey harvest	0
Sales of honey in the year	0
Branch apiary honey c/fwd at 31 December (lbs)	0

Treasurer: N. Ashton
Auditor: R. Spencer

	Wirral General	Wirral Training	Wirral Branch
	2019	2019	2019
	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES:			
Voluntary income			
Admissions	210.91		210.91
Activities for generating funds			
Raffle	149.12		149.12
Incoming resources from charitable activities			
Training courses	230.00	2,570.00	2,800.00
Equipment sales			
Total incoming resources	590.03	2,570.00	3,160.03
RESOURCES EXPENDED:			
Costs of generating voluntary income			
Room hire	(505.00)		(505.00)
Speakers expenses	(648.13)		(648.13)
Postage costs		(27.60)	(27.60)
Fundraising trading: cost of goods sold			
Catering/ refreshments/ raffle	(90.67)		(90.67)
Cost of charitable activities			
Training course running costs		(270.00)	(270.00)
Training Equipment	(337.33)		337.33)
Miscellaneous costs			
Other resources expended			
Miscellaneous costs	(102.86)	(484.00)	(586.86)
Total resources expended	(1,683.99)	(781.60)	(2,465.59)
Net incoming/outgoing resources before transfers	(1,093.96)	1,788.40	694.44
TRANSFERS			
Branch capitation from County	550.00		550.00
NET MOVEMENT IN CASH FUNDS	(543.96)	1,788.40	1,244.44
Opening cash funds	5,144.81	5,150.45	10,295.26
Closing cash at bank	4,600.85	6,938.85	11,539.70
TOTAL FUNDS	4,600.85	6,938.85	11,539.70

REPORT ON THE 2020 BBKA DELEGATES' MEETING

This year's Annual Delegates' Meeting was once again held at Myton School in Warwick. On 11th January, 67 Area Association delegates assembled, representing over 24,000 BBKA members throughout the UK. The meeting always has a busy agenda, so a summary of the key outcomes is given here.

The agenda always covers reports from the various subcommittees that undertake the day-to-day running of the BBKA as well as an overview of Association finances. Following a significant drive to manage expenditure, the association made a small surplus in 2019, so for the fourth year running there will be no increase in capitation – an outcome received as good news by all, with appreciation for the BBKA staff shown in the traditional manner with a round of applause!

Exams, awards and recognitions

There was a significant increase in the number of Basic Assessments in the past year, with 712 successful candidates from 61 areas compared with 636 from 55 areas last year. A similar trend has been seen with module exams, with 522 exams taken, up by 100 on the previous year. This year, the Surrey Shield, for best performance in the Basic examinations, was presented to Tyneside BKA. The George Knights Memorial Award for the best performance in assessments above basic (so module exams, general and advanced husbandry etc.) was awarded to Yorkshire BKA.

Applications for association membership

Previous years have seen several applications for BBKA membership from new groups or splinter groups from larger area associations. This year there were applications from Darlington BKA and Laddingford and District BKA. Darlington's application was withdrawn. Laddingford's application had been put forward and rejected last year, with the feeling that the delegate group, and particularly the larger associations, were

tiring of the apparent fragmentation of existing groups. The application was again rejected.

Nominations to BBKA committees

This year, Executive Committee (EC) positions with a three-year tenure were taken up by Anne Rowberry (Avon), Joyce Nisbet (Shropshire), Stephen Barnes (Cumbria), and Richard Bond (Harrogate & Ripon). Two-year tenures were taken up by Gareth Morgan (Surrey) and Robert Hogge (Jersey). John Hendrie (Kent) took up a position for one year.

In addition, Helen Hughes (Cleveland) was elected to the Examinations Board. After many years in office in various organisation and committee roles, Margaret Mordin stepped down and Margaret Wilson (Lancs & NW) was voted in as President.

It has often been the case that there are fewer candidates standing for election than there are positions available. The chair put it to the meeting that should this situation arise in the future, the Executive Committee should be able to appoint suitable individuals to fill any vacancies.

Propositions for consideration

This year there were 15 propositions for consideration. A number of these were to finalise the constitution of the BBKA as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). At the last ADM the delegates voted overwhelmingly to convert to a CIO, which required the existing BBKA constitution to be amended to match (as closely as possible) the Charity Commission Model Constitution without altering the ethos or structure of the BBKA.

The changes have been minor, however, following several disagreements between trustees in recent years, the discipline and grievance procedure for trustees that was in place was deemed not fit for purpose. A new

procedure was therefore put in place, including training in dispute resolution for all new trustees. This was ratified this year, along with other changes, including an amendment to simplify the voting mechanism for filling vacancies on the executive committee. There is more information about the CIO and the route to its finalisation on the BBKA web site at

<https://www.bbka.org.uk/charitable-incorporated-organisation>

While attendance at the ADM is generally good, for those more distant associations, the journey is a long one and it may be difficult for some delegates to attend in person. Moreover, should a delegate be unable to attend at short notice and a substitute be unavailable, the proxy voting arrangement enables their associations' mandate to be represented at the meeting. However, the issue of proxy voting has been contentious in recent years.

This year, a proposition was put forward by West Sussex BKA to activate proxy voting only when there is a physical attendance of 90% of delegates, thereby encouraging delegates to attend in person. This was amended to 70% during the meeting, and the issue sparked some fierce debate, notably that the more remote associations might feel disenfranchised.

Ultimately, the feeling of the meeting was that anything that restricts an association's representation at the ADM would not be a good thing and the proposition was not carried.

Buckinghamshire BKA had tabled a proposition that the BBKA should raise pollinator awareness among planning and landscaping professionals.

Education around the value of bees, and indeed, all pollinators, is one of the key objectives of the Association. And while the point was made that it is difficult for the BBKA to influence landscape professionals' initial training directly, there remain many opportunities in continued professional development which will capture people at all

stages of their career, and therefore may impact a much wider cross section of individuals. The proposition was carried overwhelmingly, with a closing comment that more tightly defined actions are needed now to put the plan into action.

The final proposition of the day was for the delegates to vote on a proposal for the BBKA to support the UK in pursuing membership of Apimondia – the International Federation of Beekeepers' Associations and other organisations working within the apicultural sector.

Apimondia aims to promote many aspects of apicultural development internationally, and has 118 global members, 33 being European countries. For the UK to join, we must do so as the UK (rather than just England), and so the membership must be sought under the auspices of CONBA – the Confederation of National Beekeeping Associations, which includes the BBKA, the Scottish Beekeepers' Association, Welsh BKA and Ulster Beekeepers.

While there would be little direct benefit to BBKA members from the UK's membership of Apimondia, the group felt that it is important for the UK to have a voice in, and to contribute to the global beekeeping community, and the proposition was carried with a solid majority.

In closing, Margaret Murdin handed over the presidency and chains of office to the incoming President, Margaret Wilson who in turn offered a vote of thanks for her predecessor's many years of service to the Association.

Should anyone wish to know more about the ADM, then please just drop me a line at

lesley.jacques@me.com

Lesley Jacques
ADM delegate for Cheshire BKA

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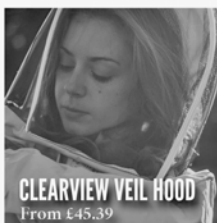
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1929 W. Stokoe	1981 J. Nixon
1930 H. Stubbs	1982 S.S. Hancock
1931 Rev. H.W. Comber	1983 K.J. McMorine
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1933 H. Cropper	1985 J. Todd
1934 D.J. Hemming	1986 B. Stonehouse
1935 R.G. Williams	1987 H. Holland
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1948 Mrs M.E.H. Edgerley	2000 E.F. Hilder
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1950 G.E. Hancox	2002 M.R. Brierley
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1952 Sir E.B. Royden, bart.	2004 J.S. Hollinshead
1953 J.F. Johnson	2005 S.L. Kidman
1954 A. Witter	2006 S. & Mrs P.A. Hatton
1955 D. Heaton	2007 R. Brocklehurst
1956 D.R. Hardy	2008 G.F. Royle
1957 E.F. Marchant	2009 R. Burns
1958 W.A. Dutton	2010 S.B. Guest
1959 W.R. Burgess	2011 S.K. Nuttall
1960 Mrs G. White	2012 T.E. Ashley
1961 J. Wright	2013 P. Sutcliffe
1962 H.H. Jackson	2014 J. Goodwin
1963 V.D. Wavish	2015 D. Buckley
1964 W. Vickers	2016 D. Ryan
1965 G.E. Morgan	2017 Mrs L. Jacques
1966 W.S. Basnett	2018 No award made
1967 J.W. Corbett	2019 Mrs E. Camm
1968 G.W. Banwell CBE, MC	2020 G. Platt
1969 F. Griffiths	
1970 Miss L. Manley	
1971 J.D. Frimston FBBKA	
1972 R. Brandon	
1973 G. E. Mitchell	
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