

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

England & Wales · Charity number 232476

Details

Other names QMC

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1964-06-25

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

Contact

Address 31 West Park
London
SE9 4RZ

Phone 07934 409314

Email secretary@quekett.org

Website www.quekett.org

Activities

Objects: TO ENCOURAGE THE STUDY OF EVERY BRANCH OF MICROSCOPICAL SCIENCE, AND TO PROVIDE FACILITIES WHEREBY WORKERS IN THIS FIELD MAY INTERCHANGE IDEAS AND OBTAIN OR GIVE HELP OR ADVICE ON THE ASPECTS OF THE SCIENCE, AND TO PRINT AND PUBLISH PROCEEDINGS OR REPORTS OF THE CLUB AND PAPERS RELATING TO MATTERS OF INTEREST TO WORKERS IN ANY BRANCH OF THE SCIENCE.

Activities: Promotes use and understanding of the microscope in all aspects of the sciences and arts, particularly by amateurs

Classification

- **How:** Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Education/training, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Other Defined Groups

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** NATIONAL
- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£75,164	£36,570	-	-
2023-12-31	£57,110	£63,272	-	-
2022-12-31	£58,946	£57,056	-	-
2021-12-31	£48,824	£40,455	-	-
2020-12-31	£50,761	£37,082	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Professor Terence Hope	Chair	2022-03-08
Dr Alexander Cunningham		2024-03-05
Dr Andrew James Scott		2026-01-01
Dr Christopher John Thomas PhD		2016-03-15
Dr Frank Geoffrey Leaver		2025-04-01
John Gregory		2024-11-13
Jonathan Palmer		2025-04-01
Lisa Iris Ashby		2019-06-18
PHILIP MARTIN GREAVES		
Peter Wyn-Jones		2021-03-09
Prof. David Furness		2025-04-01
Robert Ratford		2017-03-14

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

England & Wales - Charity number 232476

Accounts

Charity number: 232476

**QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

CONTENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Page
Legal and administrative information	1
Annual Report of the Committee	2 - 10
Independent examiner's report	11
Receipts and Payments	12
Statement of Assets and Liabilities	13

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Status

The governing document of the charity is the Constitution and Rules of the Quekett Microscopical Club (as amended 2007).

Trustees

Mr Philip Greaves
Dr Christopher Thomas
Mr Paul Smith (to August 2024)
Mr John Gregory (from November 2024)
Mr Robert Ratford
Mrs Lisa Ashby
Mr Peter Wyn-Jones
Professor Terence Hope
Mr Alex Cunningham
Dr Frank Leaver (from April 2025)
Professor David Furness (from April 2025)
Mr Jonathon Palmer (from April 2025)
Mr Kirit Gordhandas (from March 2024)

Secretary

Mrs Lisa Ashby

Charity number

232476

Business address

31 West Park
Mottingham
London
SE9 4RZ

Independent examiner's

Bradshaw Johnson
Croft Chambers
11 Bancroft
Hitchin
Herts
SG5 1JQ

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

The Committee are pleased to present their annual report for the year ended 31 December 2024.

At the end of the year 2024 the total membership was 511 now made up of:

- 423 UK or European based Ordinary Members,
- 88 Rest of the world members.

These numbers include:

- 475 Adult Members,
- 4 Young Members,
- 5 Complimentary Members,
- 12 Honorary Members,
- 3 Legal depositories (one of which is the Natural History Museum Library),
- 5 Supporting Member organisations.
- 7 Organisations subscribing to the Journal

There following nominations for Honorary Membership were received and approved for the period 1 January 2024 – 31 December 2024, Ray Trapmore, Cherry Trapmore and Stephen Parker. During the same period we were notified of the deaths of the following members John Delly, Steven Ettlinger, Terry Hardy, Brian Wilkinson and Paul Smith.

Finances

The Club's income for the year amounted to £75,164 (2023: £58,946) and expenditure £36,570 (2023: £63,272). This leads to a surplus for the year (and increase of cash funds) of £38,594 (2023: deficit of £6,162). The Club's cash funds as of 31st December were £249,518 (2023: £210,924), and our investment assets £412,379 (2023: £386,968).

The Committee

The Committee for 2024 was composed of

President:	Terence Hope
Vice President:	Vacant
Hon. Secretary:	Lisa Ashby
Meetings Secretary:	Paul Smith (until Aug 2024) / John Gregory (from Nov 2024)
Hon. Treasurer:	Kirit Gorhandas
Journal Editor:	Alex Cunningham
Bulletin Editor:	Chris Thomas
Collections and Archives Officer:	Phil Greaves
Webmaster:	Peter Wyn-Jones
Membership Secretary:	Robert Ratford
Committee Member:	Grenham Ireland and Graham Matthews (until Mar 2024) then Vacant/Vacant

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Meetings

16th January, Gossip meeting – My latest acquisition

10th February, Practical meeting – Crystal melts and deep mounts

Led by Chris Thomas and held at the Natural History museum. Attendees were able to make vitamin c crystal melt slides, as well as some deep mounts. There was also the opportunity to make a feather mount using the copper tape method devised by Michael Horwood.

24th February, Home Counties meeting Surrey

Arranged by Joan Bingley at St Andrews Church Hall, Cobham. This year participants were provided with a talk from Bevil Templeton-Smith on Art photography using a microscope. Followed with a short talk on stereo microscopes by Robert Ratford. As last year members had lunch together, the afternoon was a gossip session.

5th March, Gossip meeting – Hairs

Led by John Gregory at the Natural History Museum we were able to see how to dry mount hairs, use loca and make impressions in loca.

5th March AGM

This followed the Gossip meeting and including the Annual and Financial Reports.

9th March, Spring Sale – Sonning Common

This meeting is now getting established as our second sales event in the year and was well attended.

6th April, Practical meeting – Stains and staining

Led by Terry Hope at the Natural History Museum. The meeting was a hands on session where members were able to try staining pollen, cheek swabs and blood smears. There was also a small display of gossip items.

13th April, Lockington meeting

20th April, South Coast Open Meeting

Our joint meeting with the Postal Microscopical Society

14th May, Gossip meeting – Victorian slides

Members showed off Victorian slides as well as some of the recently restored books from the Club Library this was followed by the Presidential Address.

14th May, Presidential Address

Terry Hopes first Presidential Address 'Going Dutch'

8th June, Home Counties meeting

Naze Discovery Centre

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

15th June, Joint Meeting with Bournemouth Natural Science Society & Museum (BNSSM)

The fourth Joint Meeting of the BNSS and the QMC included an exhibition of microscopy which was well attended by members and members of the public. The meeting was available to family groups visiting the museum and a number of visiting members were able to discuss the finer points of the microscope and camera set ups on show. It was followed by an afternoon talk 'Spiders: a closer look at their special features – from eyes to spinnerets' from Dr. Jeremy Poole

29th June, Excursion – Keston Common, Bromley

Microscopes were set up in the Village Hall and pond samples were brought back for examination.

7th July, Northampton Natural History Society – Annual Exhibition

9th July, Lecture – M C Cooke. Easily Identifiable Tiny Fungi by Dr Fay Newbery (Royal Horticultural Society, London). Dr Newbery is a plant pathologist, diagnosing diseases on garden plants. She is particularly interested in diseases caused by fungi, both in UK garden plants and in our wild flora.

23rd July, Gossip meeting – Diatoms, finding, collecting, cleaning and viewing.

This meeting was held via Zoom and the introduction to the subject provided by Mike Samworth who many members will know from the Postal Microscopical Society.

6th August, joint lecture with Bournemouth Natural Science Society

Peering inside the black box of Forensic Entomology, By Dr Katheren Brown.

3rd August, Warnham Local Nature Reserve excursion

This was the thirteenth Quekett excursion to Warnham Local Nature Reserve on the outskirts of Horsham, West Sussex, hosted by the Friends of Warnham Local Nature Reserve.

12th August, Microscopium, The Microscopists' Fair. We again took up residence at The Settlement in Letchworth. As always, Microscopium provided members and visitors with the chance to pick up some bargains and even some freebies with the chance to chat with friends old and new.

17th September, Gossip meeting – Converting to LED

Led by Gordon Brown this was a zoom only event.

October, Annual Exhibition of Microscopy - Quekex

The event was held for the fourth time at Elm Court Youth and Community Centre, Potters Bar, Hertfordshire. As usual, there were demonstrations and exhibits by members, displays of the photomicrographs, videos, slides and artwork submitted for awards, lectures, and plenty of gossip. This year saw a number of new entrants to the awards and displays. The event and offered both online content and a physical event and saw good attendance at both.

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

15th October – Zoom only lecture - Recreating J B Dancers Microphotograph technique, By Mark Osterman.

19th October – physical event with displays and awards.

19th October – Touched by Porlific Virtue, By Prof Rob Kessler, University of Arts London. The good the bad and the Algae. By Prof Chris Howe, Dept of biochemistry Cambridge University.

12th November, Lecture – L V Martin Lecture. “The Ted Kellock slide collection” Katy Firth

Katy spoke to us on behalf of Stromness Museum who had been the recipients of a grant to digitise the Ted Kellock collection.

3rd December, Gossip Meeting – Dark ground illumination
Delivered by former Club President Carel Sartory.

14th December, Lecture and Christmas Quiz

The lecture was Heroes don't always win which was delivered By Phil Greaves. This was followed by our traditional Christmas quiz devised and presented by Robert Ratford.

Publications

With our new printer, overseas members are now receiving publications in a timely manner.

Journal:

Volume 44 parts 7 and 8 were issued in the course of the year and for the most part successfully delivered. A separately printed index was sent out with part 8 (Winter 2024), which concluded the volume. The editor (Alex Cunningham) would like to thank all authors for the high quality of their contributions, and for their tolerance of the occasionally draconian editing process.

Bulletin: The Bulletin provides a more magazine-like complement to the academic Journal. Numbers 86 in May 2024 and 87 in January 2025 were published with the continued excellent complement of our member's wonderful and varied contributions, the positive trends of diversity, number and locations of contributors are continuing. Printing and mailing of the Autumn 2024 Bulletin was delayed until January 2025 to avoid the Christmas posting and also combine mailing with the Journal, to be more cost effective for members.

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

The Club on-line (<https://www.quekett.org>)

The website is our shop window to the world. It continues to provide a wealth of information on many aspects of microscopy written by enthusiasts, many of whom are acknowledged experts in their fields, and it thus complements the Bulletin and Journal as principal sources of microscopical information. It also provides near-real-time updating of the Club's functions and events and allows members to verify times and locations of meetings as well as to read reports of events soon after they have taken place. In this respect thanks are due to members who have provided notification of events and information, particularly Alan Wood for his furnishing of fulsome reports for members who could not attend an event.

There is always room for more reports: so if you have been to a QMC event and can provide a brief note/photographs of what/where/what happened for inclusion in the Meeting Reports section of the website, you would be doing a service to your fellow members, publicising the Club, and earning my grateful thanks. Please send items to webmaster@quekett.org.

The website has over 1100 pages: some are more popular than others. The website as a whole receives just under 200 hits per day (Fig 1).

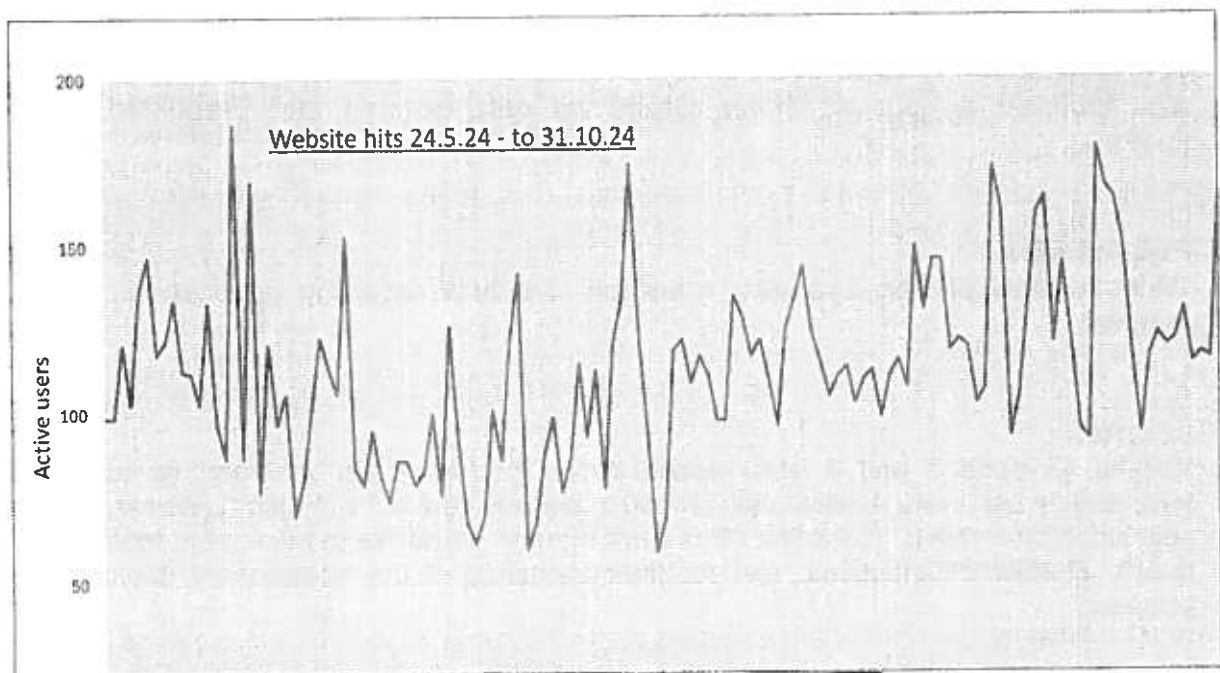


Fig 1. Hits 24.05 24 - 1.10.24

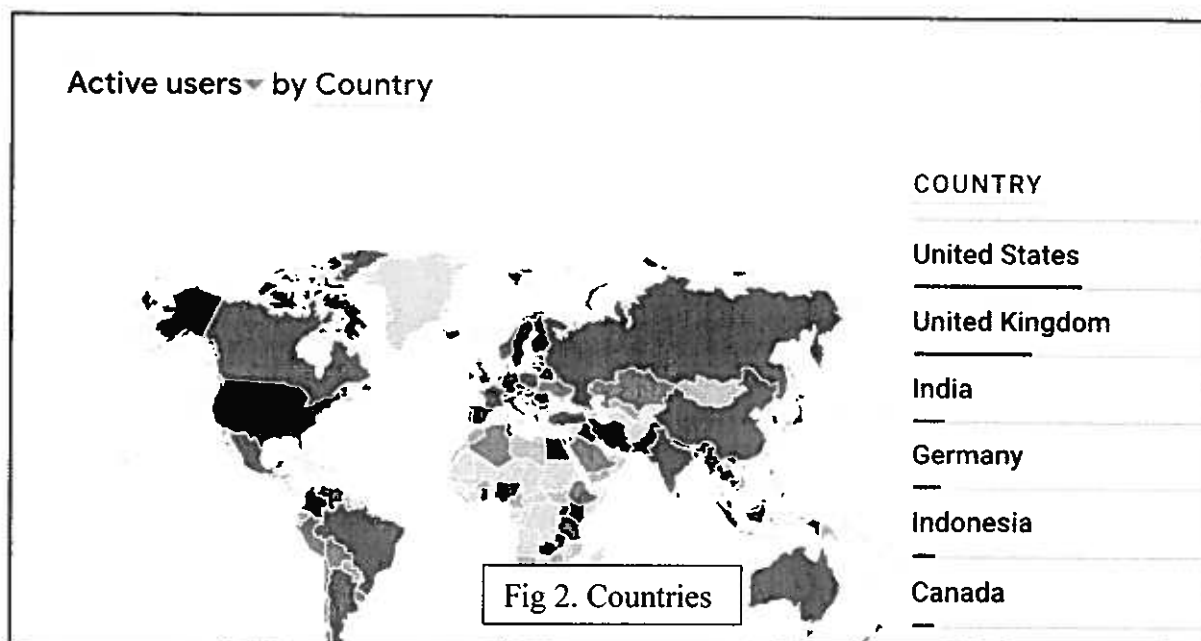
Apart from the Home, Login, and Programme pages, those most visited areas are on digital photomicrography and searches for methodology for particular microscopes. While gratifying to see these pages are well-used, it would be good to see other pages being visited.

Most visitors continue to come from the US, India and Germany, as well as the UK (Fig 2).

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024



We continue to use Ionos for hosting the website, Updraft Plus for backup (every 24 hours) and Vimeo for hosting videos. These services and others combine to give a cost (for 2024/25) of about £1300. We also keep a contingency fund with web developers in Oxford who are expert in WordPress-based websites, but such services are expensive and we do not use them lightly.

We are always looking for new ideas for the website: this year on the Programme page we have included brief notifications of some other clubs' meetings, as we are keen to promote microscopical interaction between clubs.

Collections and archives

Work to catalogue and conserve the Club's collections and archives has continued throughout 2024, although access to our store room at the Natural History Museum was severely restricted in the latter part of the year due to essential building repair works.

The Collections team has responded to several requests for access to papers from our Journal and to slides in the collections from academic workers, both at the Museum and further afield; in particular Graham Matthews has been fully documenting our slides of mites by A. D. Mitchell for taxonomic research.

A major investment was made in professional conservation bookbinding of our small 'core' collection of rare and historical books on microscopy, some dating from the 1780's and early 1800's. The work was carefully carried out by the Wyvern Bindery in Hoxton and consisted of re-stitching, re-backing, new acid free end papers where necessary and a bespoke (card) case has been constructed for each of the books to ensure protection during storage.

Work to improve the Slide Loan Set scheme for members has been delayed by the building works at the Museum but we aim in early 2025 to make more of the Richardson Collection of microscope slides available for postal loan. There were three postal loans during 2024.

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Outreach

Club activities where we take our microscopes to public events have been less extensive this year as we have lost some of our regular volunteers. However, as long standing activities have been suspended, new ones have emerged. A very successful collaboration with Tim Fullick, a Club member and volunteer at Down House, led to a weekend display celebrating Darwin's microscopical studies. A very welcome volunteer for this was Jay Holmes from the USA who joined more local members to entertain some 400 visitors. We will be repeating this collaboration in 2025.

Other events attended included:

- A science display at Poole central library in collaboration with the Bournemouth Natural Science Society.
- A Saturday morning family microscopy event at Oakdale local library, Poole.
- Geologists Association Festival of Science.
- Wimbledon Common – three events Nature Day, Open Day and the Nature Club.
- Chinbrook meadows Nature Discovery Day.
- Grove Park Carnival.
- National Honey Show.
- A photomicroscopy workshop in collaboration with the charity Positive Lives.
- Warnham Local Nature Reserve excursion.
- Wimbledon Common Nature Day, Open Day, Nature Club and Weekend of Nature.
- Sussex Biological Recorders Seminar.

Our two national and international events, the exhibition at New Scientist Live and the Internet linked World Microscope Celebration with its transmission of live talks and demonstrations highlighted the Club commitment to amateur and professional microscopy. Thanks are due to all members who volunteer for these events and an invitation is extended for new members to join in.

The Milton Microscopy Group of the Quekett (MIMIQ) is a combination of regional meeting and outreach, i.e. open to anyone interested in microscopy. We had 2 events in the 2024, as family circumstances prevented Chris Thomas running one of the sessions. In addition to the meetings in Milton, the group also ran a highly successful full day at the Norris Museum for a second year, on World Microscope day, and have been invited back for 2025. Attendance is variable, with a core of members close to Cambridgeshire members and some now coming from further afield. Meetings are on a Sunday, roughly quarterly, from 2:30 pm to 5:30 pm.

We had meetings on Animal hairs and on Leaf epidermis prints.

The events are funded by the Quekett through the payment of the hall fees.

The Anglian Microscopy Group

Based in Crowfield, Suffolk, the group has now been operating as an outreach project for three years during which time we have maintained an average attendance at meetings of over 30 enthusiastic members. The group is led by Robert Ratford and Gordon Brown, Stephen Durr having stood down for personal reasons, and an increasing number of regular attendees lend support.

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

In 2024 the group held 12 meetings, details shown below;

- January - Sand and microfossils
- February - Crystals and Polarised light
- March - Basic Microscopy Refresher session on setting up & using microscopes.
- April - Cutting thin sections of plants on the microtome
- May - Algae
- June - Pseudoscorpions & compost safari
- July - Pollen, its development, function, and structure
- August - Mounting of insect legs and wings
- September - Mites, concentrating on Varroa destructor
- October - Marine plankton (Sunday meeting to avoid Quekex)
- November - Dissecting owl pellets
- December – Christmas plant sections

As in previous years the group manned a stand at the village fete, where we were able to use the interactive board provided by the Quekett to show Pseudoscorpions and other interesting live displays. This was extremely well received and the stand was very busy for the full afternoon.

In October we helped at New Scientist live and once again we provided a demonstration of microscopy at Ipswich Museum, which brought in two new members who have become regular attendees. We continue to publicise the group at every available opportunity, often via the very active Facebook group, and membership comes from far and wide, members travelling from Hertfordshire, Bedford, Peterborough, London, Essex, Norfolk, as well as those from Suffolk. More and more of the regular attendees are choosing to become Quekett members and many join the Quekett Zoom meetings.

Overall the Anglian Microscopy Group has been a resounding success in 2024 and will no doubt continue to grow over time.

Links to other organisations

Wherever possible we continue to maintain links with other organisations and share the details of these with others.

Advice on Microscopes

Facebook continues to provide a good source of information and advice. Additionally many members contact us after events asking to put in touch with speakers or other members to share or continue conversations.

Advice from the Club extends to members' families when a member has died and they are not sure how to deal with a member's collection. Bequests continue to be received and these items may be retained by the Club for use in outreach events or will be sold either in the Members Auction or at one of our sales events.

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Conclusion

2024 has been an exceptionally busy year for the Committee and one where we are acutely aware that our resources are stretched. If we are to continue to provide a full programme of meetings and outreach we will need to recruit more committee members and more outreach volunteers.

Despite this we have had a successful year making new contacts and taking microscopy to new audiences.

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES ON THE UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS OF QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2024 set out on pages 12 to 13.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiners' report

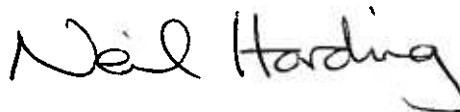
My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity, and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and the seeking of explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiners' statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Acthave not been met; or
- to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Neil Harding FCA
Bradshaw Johnson
Chartered Accountants
Croft Chambers,
11 Bancroft
Hitchin
Herts SG5 1JQ



Date: 9 July 2025

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Receipts	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £
Functional Analysis		
Gifts, donations & other Voluntary receipts	61,396	51,644
Receipts From Trading Activities	5,951	988
Receipts from Assets	5,733	4,478
Sub-total	<u>73,080</u>	<u>57,110</u>
Other receipts	2,084	11,753
Total receipts	<u>75,164</u>	<u>58,946</u>
Payments		
Functional Analysis		
Payments directly for Charitable Purposes	28,971	57,229
Payments for publicity, fundraising, Management & administration	5,957	6,043
Sub-total	<u>34,928</u>	<u>63,272</u>
Other payments	1,642	-
Total payments	<u>36,570</u>	<u>63,272</u>
Net Receipts/(Payments)	38,594	(6,162)
Cash funds brought forward	210,924	217,086
Cash funds carried forward	<u>249,518</u>	<u>210,924</u>

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

Cash Funds	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £
Current Account	26,286	7,192
Stripe	1,015	1,117
Deposit Account	117,299	100,943
One Year Bond	103,109	100,000
PayPal Account	1,809	1,672
	249,518	210,924
Less Uncleared	-	-
Total Cash Funds	249,518	210,924

Investment assets	Unrestricted Funds Year End Value	Unrestricted Funds Year End Value
Lion Trust (was Architas) (For Income)	204,685	191,458
Aberdeen Multimanager Funds (For Capital Growth)	208,054	195,510

Assets Retained for the Charity's Own Use

Computer & Peripherals to assist in Club Management
Library of Books for loan to & reference by members
Library of Microscope Slides for loan to & reference by members
Video Library for loan to & reference by members
Microscopes & accessories for use by members
Digital camera & printer for recording the slide collection
Data Projector for use with Power Point Applications

Signed on behalf of the Trustees on 22 May 2025 by:



Stephen Parker – Acting Honorary Treasurer

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

England & Wales - Charity number 232476

Accounts

THE QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB
UK Registered Charity No. 232476
Annual Report of the Committee for the year ending 31st December 2023

At the end of the year 2023 the total membership was 529 now made up of:

- 444 UK or European based Ordinary Members,
- 85 Rest of the world members.

These numbers include:

- 494 Adult Members,
- 2 Young Members,
- 8 Complimentary Members,
- 11 Honorary Members,
- 3 Legal depositories (one of which is the Natural History Museum Library),
- 5 Supporting Member organisations.
- 6 Organisations subscribing to the Journal

There were no nominations for Honorary Membership during this period 1 January 2023 – 31 December 2023. During the same period we were notified of the deaths of the following members Derek Brown, John Millham, Brian Mooney, Philip Muston, Don Rutherford and Mr Keith Stringfellow.

Finances

The Club's income for the year amounted to £57,110[1] (2022: £58,946) and expenditure £63,272 (2022: £57,056). This leads to a deficit for the year (and decrease of cash funds) of £6,162 (2022: surplus of £1,890). The Club's cash funds as of 31st December were £210,924 (2022: £217,086), and our investment assets £386,968.42 (2022: £357,215).

The decrease in income (as compared to 2022) was principally due to the substantial income in 2022 from a members' auction. The overall significant deficit was due to the Committee's decision to use income (particularly donated income) accrued during COVID to increase our charitable spend, as explained later on in this report.

Committee

The Committee for 2023 was composed of

President:	Terence Hope
Vice President:	Steve Gill
Hon. Secretary:	Lisa Ashby
Meetings Secretary:	Paul Smith
Hon. Treasurer:	Stephen Parker
Journal Editor:	Phil Greaves / Alex Cunningham
Bulletin Editor:	Chris Thomas
Collections and Archives Officer:	Phil Greaves
Webmaster:	Peter Wyn-Jones
Membership Secretary:	Robert Ratford
Committee Member:	Grenham Ireland (also regional meetings) Graham Matthews

THE QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB
UK Registered Charity No. 232476
Annual Report of the Committee for the year ending 31st December 2023

Meetings

17th January, Gossip meeting – My Latest Acquisition

7th February, Gossip meeting – Capturing and Editing Video

Willem Cramer gave us an introduction to why one might want to use video. He described the hardware he used and emphasised the importance of a powerful computer to reduce the rendering time and avoid unexpected shutdowns. He talked about the software he used for capture (Motic Images Plus 3.0) and editing (DaVinci Studio) and about the use of accompanying sound. He demonstrated the results with his own short video clips.

25th February, Home Counties Meeting at Cobham

This was the third of a series of full-day meetings in the Home Counties that we hope will encourage more members to attend face-to-face events because they will not have to travel into central London. We were pleased to see some new faces as well as the regulars. It was held in the main hall of Church Gate House Centre, where the South Thames Discussion Group met for several years, adjacent to St Andrews Church in Cobham, Surrey. The hall has a kitchen where tea, coffee and biscuits were available when we arrived and during the afternoon.

11th March, Reading Convention

This year the Convention moved to Sonning Common Village Hall, a bit further from Reading. The Convention is now being run by the Quekett Microscopical Club, retaining the usual format of the morning devoted to exhibits and sales, followed by a break for lunch and then a talk in the afternoon.

25th March, Midlands Meeting Penkridge

1st April, Workshop – Epi-Illumination

Epi-illumination involves light reflected from the specimen, and is the normal illumination in metallurgical microscopy and the most common illumination used with stereomicroscopes. Reflections of the light source can be a problem, but can often be reduced using two polarisers or diffused illumination.

15th April, Lockington Meeting

22nd April, Gossip – South Coast Spring Meeting

We always had the door open so holidaymakers and villagers would often drop in for a look. To encourage this, posters were distributed around libraries and notices put in tourist offices and newsletters in Poole, Swanage and Langton inviting visitors to drop by. Posters were also passed to local schoolteachers to display.

29th April, East of England Meeting, Bradfield St. George

27th May, Joint Meeting with Bournemouth Natural Science Society & Museum (BNSSM)

The 3rd Joint Meeting of the BNSS and the QMC included an exhibition of microscopy which was well attended by members and members of the public. The meeting was available to family groups visiting the museum and a number of visiting members were able to discuss the finer points of the microscope and camera set ups on show. It was followed by an afternoon talk ‘Spiders: a closer look at their special features – from eyes to spinnerets’ from Dr. Jeremy Poole

10th June, Home Counties Meeting, Dagenham, Essex

The meeting at the Eastbrookend Discovery Centre had good transport links and lakes, woodland and grassland for collecting specimens.

THE QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB
UK Registered Charity No. 232476
Annual Report of the Committee for the year ending 31st December 2023

24th June, Gossip meeting – Polarised Light Microscopy

2nd July, Northampton Natural History Society – Annual Exhibition

11th July, Lecture – LV Martin. “Desktop Scanning Electron Microscopy” by Dr. Alex Ball.

12th August, Microscopium, The Microscopists’ Fair

Our first Microscopium at Letchworth Settlement in 2022 was a success, so we returned for the 2023 event. As always, Microscopium provided members and visitors with a good opportunity to dispose of surplus items and to acquire new kit, and also provided an excellent opportunity to meet old friends, make new friends, and gossip over tea and coffee and over lunch. An overtime ban on the trains and the ever-increasing cost of petrol may have kept some people away, but we still had a good crowd of buyers. As usual, there were bargains ranging from filters and bulbs for £1 to slide cabinets, a trinocular Zeiss PrimoStar and a huge Reichert Zetopan outfit.

23rd September, Midlands Meeting at Penkridge

October, Annual Exhibition of Microscopy - Quekex

The event was held for the third time at Elm Court Youth and Community Centre, Potters Bar, Hertfordshire. As usual, there were demonstrations and exhibits by members, displays of the photomicrographs, videos, slides and artwork submitted for awards, lectures, and plenty of gossip. In accordance with tradition, Club President Terry Hope opened the meeting by sounding the Quekett horn. The event and offered both online content and a physical event and saw good attendance at both.

- 11th October – Zoom only lecture
Topic: Forensic chemical microscopy and the fun of figuring things out by Skip Palenik of Microtrace.
- 14th October 2022 – physical event with displays and awards.
- 14th October 2022 – lectures Fluorescence microscopy and its use in the life science by Nicola Lawrence, Deputy Imaging Facility Manager– Cambridge University and Condenser-free Differential Quantitative Phase Contrast (dPC) microscopy – measuring refractive index using LEDs by Dr. Kevin Webb, Associate Professor in Applied Optics and Electrophysiology, Faculty of Engineering – Nottingham University.

14th November, Lecture – MC Cooke Lecture. “Sticklebacks under the Microscope” Professor MacColl

Professor MacColl’s research interests include the population ecology of vertebrates, the ecology of freshwater fish (especially the stickleback) and fish parasitology. He teaches a second year residential ‘Biodiversity Field Course’ in Dovedale each year. The lecture was extremely interesting and covered various species from many parts of the world, and some horrible parasites that they are prone to contracting.

21st November, Gossip meeting – Dry Mounts in Slip Cases

Former Club President Carel Sartory gave a talk on his method of making slip cases or Plummer Slides for larger specimens. That is for use in mounting whole insects and the like and not tiny forams where such slides are commonly used.

9th December, Lecture and Christmas Quiz

The lecture was given by well-known Dutch microscopist Wim van Edmond on, photomicrography including time lapse video. The traditional quiz was prepared by Robert Ratford and provided an enjoyable end to the Club’s year.

THE QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB
UK Registered Charity No. 232476
Annual Report of the Committee for the year ending 31st December 2023

Publications

We have used our current printers for many years and used the same bulk mailing service throughout. Over the last couple of years we have had significant problems with delivery of overseas publications, this has resulted in a change of printer and mailing service for the last two publications of 2023. As a result overseas members are now receiving publications in a timely manner.

Journal:

Volume 44 parts 5 and 6, Summer and Winter 2023 respectfully were issued. Dr. Penny Thoys unfortunately had to stand down as Editor early in 2023 due to pressures of work and Part 5 was edited by Phil Greaves. This issue was delayed in production while several contributors completed their articles and was finally issued in September. Several North American members experienced problems in receiving their copy, due to problems with the international shipment.

Dr. Alex Cunningham, a retired oceanographic scientist and Club member based in Glasgow, came forward to volunteer his skills as Editor for the Journal and the Winter issue of the Journal was produced by him, supported by Phil Greaves. Overseas members were able to confirm that the alternative postal arrangements made for this edition were successful.

Bulletin: The Bulletin provides a more magazine-like complement to the academic Journal. Numbers 84 in May and 85 in November 2023 were published with a good complement of our member's wonderful and varied contributions, and it looks as if the positive trends of diversity, number and locations of contributors are continuing. Due to mailing issues with our last printer with Bulletin No 84, we changed to the same printer used by the PMS for Bulletin 85, and this seemed to have resolved the mailing issues, apart from any due to address changes by members. We did have one hiccup in that the first mailing of Bulletin 85 had been mis-bound, resulting in a rather unusual pagination. The printers promptly responded and addressed the issue, sending out the correctly bound version as soon as they could, with profuse apologies. Such errors are extremely rare and some members might want to retain the unusual copy as a novel item, in addition to the corrected one!

The Club on-line (<https://www.quekett.org>)

The website continues to attract about 200 hits per day from a range of countries, mostly from the UK and US. The Programme page is usually the most popular with some of the Resources pages also well visited, the pages on digital photomicrography being especially sought after. With the advances in photographic techniques, for example much increased resolution of cameras, it is probably time to review these pages and get them updated: it is therefore proposed that a low-key drive is started to encourage those members (and others?) either to revise their existing contributions or to write new ones, and thus enhance the club's contribution to the field. Focus-stacking, shadowless illumination and dark-ground illumination seem to be popular topics.

The WordPress installation continues to work well and is now automatically updated, as are most of the plug-ins (which add functionality to the website) and the UpDraft Plus software, which backs up the entire site on a daily basis. The 'MiniOrange' plugin, which allows members to access all parts of the website via a single sign-on of their username and password, has been a useful part of the major revision of the membership system and, although expensive, provides a much simpler path for members to log in. It also has other, new (for 2024), benefits which will be explored to see how they serve our needs.

Assistance in keeping the website up to date this year has been provided by Alan Wood and Chris Thomas

THE QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB
UK Registered Charity No. 232476
Annual Report of the Committee for the year ending 31st December 2023

Collections and archives

The bequeathed collection of mounted slides by the late Doug Richardson have now been fully photographed and records transferred into the Club's slide database. Now this work is complete, loan sets of slides from this collection will be made up in 2024 for members to borrow for personal use, in accordance with the wishes of the donor.

Rationalisation of historical books held in long-term storage at the Club's store room in the Natural History Museum was completed and those books deemed unsuitable for long term conservation in the Club's collections were offered for sale by postal auction at the end of 2023. This has raised funds to allow for professional conservation bookbinding and acid-free archival storage of a small core collection of rare historical books (some dating back to the 18th Century) which the Club plans to share with members by display at the Annual Exhibition and other events.

Possibly due to the increasing costs of postage, and the reduction in the number of meetings held in London, there have been no loans of slide sets or library books in 2023. The Club will continue to promote and develop the loan sets of slides, especially with new material from the Richardson collection, and will review longer-term options for the book lending library, which remains under-utilised.

Charitable / Outreach Activities

As part of our outreach programme we had a stand at the following events:

- Saturday family morning at Oakdale library, Poole
- Geologists Association Festival of Geology
- MMC2023 Royal Microscopical Society Microscience Exhibition
- Wimbledon Common Nature Day.
- Practical Astronomy Show
- Amateur Entomologists' Society (AES) Members' Day
- Chinbrook Meadows Nature Discovery Day
- Warnham Local Nature Reserve excursion
- Grove Park Carnival
- Wimbledon Common Open Day
- New Scientist Live
- Super Science Saturday at Sidmouth Science Festival
- Chinbrook Meadows Apple Day
- National Honey Show
- British Entomological and Natural History Society (BENHS) Annual Exhibition
- World Microscope Day - a two day Zoom meeting featuring talks and demonstrations by amateur and professional microscopists. Everything was presented in 'real time'.

The QMC is currently providing the Stromness Museum in Orkney with a grant to catalogue and make accessible online, a valuable collection of more than 4,000 thin rock sections of rocks from the Orkneys, Scotland and rest of the world. This was in response to a visit to the museum by our Orkadian QMC member Alan Jones more than a year ago, written up in the Bulletin, and followed up by Chris Thomas. Promptly designated as the direct contact to the Stromness Museum for oversight of how our funding is being used, Chris visited Stromness and the Museum in September to provide valuable microscopy advice and to see the collection and work in progress. As it was the Orkney Science Festival during his visit, he and Stromness Museum contact Katy Firth also gave a public talk and visited two schools to engage in microscopy related activities with the enthusiastic students. Katy Firth will be reporting on the project later in 2024.

THE QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB
UK Registered Charity No. 232476
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The Milton Microscopy Group of the Quekett (MIMIQ) is a combination of regional meeting and outreach, i.e. open to anyone interested in microscopy. We had 3 key events in the latter half of 2023, which are attracting an increasing number of Cambridgeshire members and some now coming from further afield. Meetings are on a Sunday, roughly quarterly, from 2:30 pm to 5:30 pm.

The September meeting topic was sands from around the world and included making your own slides either on cardboard or the usual microscopy slides from the wide variety of samples from the UK, the Mediterranean to Japan available.

In November, we were able to visit the Imaging Centre of the Gurdon Institute in Cambridge, courtesy of Dr Nicola Lawrence. We were able to see cutting edge bespoke fluorescence, confocal and flat sheet microscopes and have a go ourselves. The imaging facility provides a service to other research groups that would otherwise not be able to afford these highly expensive microscopes.

The events are funded by the Quekett through the payment of the hall fees.

The Anglian Microscopy Group The Anglian Microscopy Group, based in Crowfield, Suffolk, continues to enjoy considerable success with an average attendance at meetings of approximately 30 enthusiastic members. The group continues to be led by Robert Ratford, Gordon Brown and Stephen Durr with a number of regular attendees lending support. In 2023 the group held 12 meetings, including a field trip to Walton on the Naze to study and collect fossils, but the October meeting was regrettably cancelled due to severe flooding in the area. As in 2023 the group had a stand at the village fete, which was very well received by the local populace. As was expected when the group was formed the majority of those who attend are beginners and/or beekeepers, although as most have become regular attendees they are growing in experience. More and more of the regular attendees are choosing to become Quekett members and many join the Quekett Zoom meetings.

Because the group has been widely publicised and has an active Facebook group, the membership covers a very wide geographic area. The furthest travelled member makes the journey from Pontefract almost every month and others travel from Hertfordshire, Bedford, Peterborough, London, and West Norfolk.

The meetings have covered a very wide range of microscopy subjects and a programme has been developed by the leaders covering the next four years with no repetition. Each meeting comprises an introduction outlining theory and techniques, followed by a practical session where the aim is to ensure each member actually makes something they can take with them. The effect of this is most of the attendees continue this work at home between meetings and results are often to be seen on the Facebook group.

With the aid of a grant from the Quekett the group now has a 75 inch UHD interactive board and camera, which was unveiled by Wim van Egmond at the September meeting. This equipment has greatly improved the quality of the presentations and demonstrations and has allowed us to arrange for Carel Sartory to lead the December meeting from his home in France using Zoom. There are no plans to broadcast the normal monthly meetings over Zoom as the logistics of doing so are extremely difficult.

Overall the Anglian Microscopy Group has been a resounding success in 2023 and will no doubt continue to grow over time.

THE QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB
UK Registered Charity No. 232476
Annual Report of the Committee for the year ending 31st December 2023

Outreach events – as can be seen from the list above, members have continued to provide displays with a variety of organisations and at a variety of venues. There are some new events this year and we hope to have more in 2024. These displays depend on members providing the microscopes and expertise and are much appreciated by the public, including many families with children, who attend. We are grateful to these active members and encourage others to join us.

Links to other organisations

Where possible we continue to maintain dialogue with as many other microscopy groups as possible. Attendance at outreach events during the year has led to invitations to set up new events in 2024.

Advice on Microscopes

Many members and non-members alike use our Facebook page to share images and to enquire about the buying and selling of microscopes, or to ask for historical or technical information. We continue to provide advice to members' families when a member has died and they are not sure how to deal with a member's collection. In some cases members have made a bequest to the Club of items and these may be retained by the Club for use in outreach events or will be sold either in the Members Auction or at one of our sales events.

Conclusion

2023 has been an interesting but difficult year. Although we have had a full programme of events physical meetings have still not seen the return to pre Covid numbers, unfortunately this is something that other groups are also reporting. We have however continued to build and expand on our outreach events and end the year with members having been sent a new programme of events that includes longer in person events at the Natural History Museum which will include a practical element and we hope this will encourage greater attendance.

Quekett Microscopical Club. Registered Charity No. 232 476.

Accounts for the period 01 Jan to 31 Dec, for the years 2023 and 2022, respectively.

(Receipts and Payments Basis)

Receipts	2023	2022
<u>Gifts, Donations & other voluntary receipts</u>		
Subscriptions:		
Cheques	516.00	290.10
Stripe	10,495.00	8,960.10
Direct Debits	8,304.20	6,876.94
via PayPal (Gross)	131.32	115.00
	19,446.52	16,242.14
Tax Reclaim: Gift Aid	0.00	1,446.30
Interest from G.Owen Trust Fund	31,626.05	24,571.87
Bequests	0.00	0.00
Monetary Donations	0.00	0.00
Sale of Bequeathed or Donated Items	571.70	589.00
	32,197.75	26,607.17
Section Total:	51,644.27	42,849.31

Receipts from Trading Activities

Sale of Journal	0.00	33.00
Journal CD / DVD	86.12	89.79
QMC Sale of QMC Publications	351.53	774.87
Club Merchandise	0.00	0.00
Microscopy Material	110.00	0.00
Auction Sale of Surplus QMC Items	440.00	0.00
Section Total:	987.65	897.66

Receipts earned from Assets

Bank Interest	1,291.57	94.92
Dividends	3,186.12	3,350.65
Section Total:	4,477.69	3,445.57

Other Receipts (not counting as "Gross Income")

Members' Auction Sale of Deceased Members' Property	0.00	11,753.11
Re-Presentation of Rejected Cheques	0.00	0.00
Section Total:	0.00	11,753.11

Total Receipts	57,109.61	57,109.61	58,945.65	58,945.65
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Payments

All expenditure relates to events and tasks carried out on behalf of and for the benefit of the Club's objectives

	2023	2022
Payments directly for charitable purposes		
<u>NHM Rent & Hire:</u>		
Store Room	1,194.00	1,194.00
Meeting Rooms	0.00	0.00
Exhibition	122.38	194.96
Digitisation of slides	0.00	0.00
Additional Exhibition Expenses	215.44	131.52
QMC Regional Meetings: Venue Hire	2,040.17	1,432.50
Microscopium: Venue Hire	295.00	295.00
External Storage of QMC Property	3,269.40	2,657.51
RCS Quekett Slide-Catalogue Project	0.00	0.00
Grants to Other Organisations	5,318.20	1,712.00
Donations to Other Organisations	16,003.83	3,220.00
Membership of The Society of Biology	0.00	0.00
Sponsorship of MiSAC Competition	0.00	0.00
MiSAC Subscription	750.00	750.00
	29,208.42	11,587.49
<u>Staffing of QMC</u>		
<u>Stands by QMC</u>		
<u>Members at</u>		
<u>Science</u>		
<u>Exhibitions</u>		
Hire of Services and Equipment	5,948.91	2,198.20
Accommodation Expenses	0.00	0.00
Travelling Expenses	183.58	182.69
	6,132.49	2,380.89
<u>Elgar Birthplace</u>		
<u>Museum Project</u>		
Museum Fees	0.00	0.00
Members' Accommodation Expenses	0.00	0.00
Donations of Microscopy Equipment, Books and Materials, for Educational Purposes	0.00	0.00
Journal Printing	7,859.00	11,591.00
Journal P & P	1,038.59	2,711.51
Editors expenses	0.00	0.00
Purchase of Image Copyright	0.00	0.00
Bulletin Printing	3,543.81	4,960.55
Bulletin P & P	2,186.60	0.00
Bulletin editors expenses	377.21	0.00
Web Master's Expenses	86.73	280.07
Website Annual Right-to-Use License	861.96	54.12
Website Development	2,887.20	2,601.87
Purchase of Capital Equipment (C.E.)	801.66	985.98
Expenses incurred in acquiring C.E.	2,159.40	0.00
Purchase of Books for QMC Library	0.00	0.00
Production of New Publications	0.00	757.03
Administration of Existing Publications	40.00	0.00
Tools and Material for Workshops	40.08	54.65
Consumable Items	6.00	0.00
Maintenance / Refurbishment	0.00	0.00
	21,888.24	23,996.78
Section Total:	57,229.15	37,965.16

**Payments for publicity, fund raising,
management & administration**

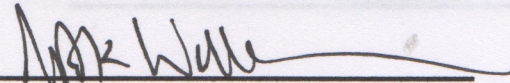
<u>Bank & Professional Charges</u>		
Independent Examination of Accounts	456.00	432.00
Stripe/Worldpay Charges	368.14	538.13
Go Cardless/Direct Debit Charges	107.48	0.00
Subscription Receipts: PayPal Charges	19.31	53.20
Members' Auction Sale: PayPal Charges	0.00	0.00
Sale of QMC Publications: PayPal Charges	0.00	0.00
	950.93	1,023.33
Public Liability Insurance	259.95	266.71
Production of Promotional Material	0.00	0.00
Subscription Manager: Fees	2,131.20	4,500.00
Expenses	0.00	0.00
Other Work	0.00	5,530.17
Administration of Investments	0.00	0.00
<u>Excluding</u>		
<u>Postage, Travel</u>		
<u>and</u>		
<u>Accommodation</u>		
<u>Expenses</u>		
President's Expenses	41.80	54.50
Secretarial Expenses	412.20	208.34
Treasurers Expenses	0.00	0.00
QMC Librarian's Expenses	0.00	0.00
Sales Officer's Expenses	916.45	707.89
Other Officers Expenses	256.75	353.60
Officers and Other Members Postage Expenses	0.00	0.00
Officers and Other Members Travel Expenses	121.55	309.35
Officers and Other Members Accommodation Expenses	0.00	0.00
Other Member's Expenses	259.10	94.29
Attendance of Officers on Training Courses	0.00	0.00
Expenses Incurred for Business Meetings	0.00	0.00
Additional Expenses for Meetings	127.62	161.96
Administration of Members' Auction Sale	530.00	660.90
Refunded Membership Subscriptions	35.00	0.00
	5,091.62	12,847.71
Section Total:	6,042.55	13,871.04

**Other payments
(not counting as "Expenditure")**

Auction Sale: Proceeds Returned to Members' Estates	0.00		5,114.37	
Resale Purchase	0.00		0.00	
Rejected Cheques / Direct Debits	0.00	0.00	105.00	5,219.37
Section Total:	0.00			5,219.37
Total Payments	63,271.70	63,271.70	57,055.57	57,055.57
AVAILABLE FUNDS	2023		2022	
Total Funds at Beginning of Year	217,086.36		215,196.28	
Net of Receipts/Payments to Date	-6,162.09		1,890.08	
	210,924.27		217,086.36	
Cash Funds:				
Current Account	7,192.38		8,313.68	
Stripe	1,117.02		2,081.86	
Paypal account	1,672.36		1,639.88	
Inst.Access Acct	100,942.51		105,050.94	
1 Year Bond	100,000.00		100,000.00	
Total Cash Funds	210,924.27		217,086.36	
Less Uncleared				
	0.00		0.00	
Total Uncleared	0.00		0.00	
Total Cash Funds	210,924.27		217,086.36	

Investment Assests	Value of Funds at Year End £	Value of Funds at Year End £
Lion Trust (was Architas)	191,458.42	174,037.69
Aberdeen Multimanager Funds (For Capital Growth)	195,510.00	183,177.01

I have examined the above statement of receipts & payments and compared them with the vouchers in the possession of the treasurer and find them to be correct.
I have also verified the investments and balances held by Lloyds Bank plc.

Signature: 

Members' Honorary Auditor

Date: 24 1 2024

Charity number: 232476

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

CONTENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Page
Legal and administrative information	1
Annual Report of the Committee	2 - 11
Independent examiner's report	12
Receipts and Payments	13
Statement of Assets and Liabilities	14

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Status

The governing document of the charity is the Constitution and Rules of the Quekett Microscopical Club (as amended 2007).

Trustees

Mr Stephen Parker
Mr Philip Greaves
Dr Christopher Thomas
Mr Paul Smith
Mr Grenham Ireland
Mr Robert Ratford
Mrs Lisa Ashby
Mr Steve Gill
Mr Graham Matthews
Mr Peter Wyn-Jones
Professor Terence Hope
Mr Alex Cunningham

Secretary

Mrs Lisa Ashby

Charity number

232476

Business address

31 West Park
Mottingham
London
SE9 4RZ

Independent examiner's

Bradshaw Johnson
Croft Chambers
11 Bancroft
Hitchin
Herts
SG5 1JQ

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The Committee are pleased to present their annual report for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Membership

At the end of the year 2023 the total membership was 529 now made up of:

- 444 UK or European based Ordinary Members,
- 85 Rest of the world members.

These numbers include:

- 494 Adult Members,
- 2 Young Members,
- 8 Complimentary Members,
- 11 Honorary Members,
- 3 Legal depositories (one of which is the Natural History Museum Library),
- 5 Supporting Member organisations.
- 6 Organisations subscribing to the Journal

There were no nominations for Honorary Membership during this period 1 January 2023 – 31 December 2023. During the same period we were notified of the deaths of the following members Derek Brown, John Millham, Brian Mooney, Philip Muston, Don Rutherford and Mr Keith Stringfellow.

Finances

The Club's income for the year amounted to £57,110 (2022: £58,946) and expenditure £63,272 (2022: £57,056). This leads to a deficit for the year (and decrease of cash funds) of £6,162 (2022: surplus of £1,890). The Club's cash funds as of 31st December were £210,924 (2022: £217,086), and our investment assets £386,968.42 (2022: £357,215).

The decrease in income (as compared to 2022) was principally due to the substantial income in 2022 from a members' auction. The overall significant deficit was due to the Committee's decision to use income (particularly donated income) accrued during COVID to increase our charitable spend, as explained later on in this report.

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Committee

The Committee for 2023 was composed of

President:	Terence Hope
Vice President:	Steve Gill
Hon. Secretary:	Lisa Ashby
Meetings Secretary:	Paul Smith
Hon. Treasurer:	Stephen Parker
Journal Editor:	Phil Greaves / Alex Cunningham
Bulletin Editor:	Chris Thomas
Collections and Archives Officer:	Phil Greaves
Webmaster:	Peter Wyn-Jones
Membership Secretary:	Robert Ratford
Committee Member:	Grenham Ireland (also regional meetings) Graham Matthews

Meetings

17th January, Gossip meeting – My Latest Acquisition

7th February, Gossip meeting – Capturing and Editing Video

Willem Cramer gave us an introduction to why one might want to use video. He described the hardware he used and emphasised the importance of a powerful computer to reduce the rendering time and avoid unexpected shutdowns. He talked about the software he used for capture (Motic Images Plus 3.0) and editing (DaVinci Studio) and about the use of accompanying sound. He demonstrated the results with his own short video clips.

25th February, Home Counties Meeting at Cobham

This was the third of a series of full-day meetings in the Home Counties that we hope will encourage more members to attend face-to-face events because they will not have to travel into central London. We were pleased to see some new faces as well as the regulars. It was held in the main hall of Church Gate House Centre, where the South Thames Discussion Group met for several years, adjacent to St Andrews Church in Cobham, Surrey. The hall has a kitchen where tea, coffee and biscuits were available when we arrived and during the afternoon.

11th March, Reading Convention

This year the Convention moved to Sonning Common Village Hall, a bit further from Reading. The Convention is now being run by the Quekett Microscopical Club, retaining the usual format of the morning devoted to exhibits and sales, followed by a break for lunch and then a talk in the afternoon.

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

25th March, Midlands Meeting Penkridge

1st April, Workshop – Epi-Illumination

Epi-illumination involves light reflected from the specimen and is the normal illumination in metallurgical microscopy and the most common illumination used with stereomicroscopes. Reflections of the light source can be a problem but can often be reduced using two polarisers or diffused illumination.

15th April, Lockington Meeting

22nd April, Gossip – South Coast Spring Meeting

We always had the door open so holidaymakers and villagers would often drop in for a look. To encourage this, posters were distributed around libraries and notices put in tourist offices and newsletters in Poole, Swanage and Langton inviting visitors to drop by. Posters were also passed to local schoolteachers to display.

29th April, East of England Meeting, Bradfield St. George

27th May, Joint Meeting with Bournemouth Natural Science Society & Museum (BNSSM)

The 3rd Joint Meeting of the BNSS and the QMC included an exhibition of microscopy which was well attended by members and members of the public. The meeting was available to family groups visiting the museum and a number of visiting members were able to discuss the finer points of the microscope and camera set ups on show. It was followed by an afternoon talk 'Spiders: a closer look at their special features – from eyes to spinnerets' from Dr. Jeremy Poole

10th June, Home Counties Meeting, Dagenham, Essex

The meeting at the Eastbrookend Discovery Centre had good transport links and lakes, woodland and grassland for collecting specimens.

24th June, Gossip meeting – Polarised Light Microscopy

2nd July, Northampton Natural History Society – Annual Exhibition

11th July, Lecture – LV Martin. "Desktop Scanning Electron Microscopy" by Dr. Alex Ball.

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

12th August, Microscopium, The Microscopists' Fair
Our first Microscopium at Letchworth Settlement in 2022 was a success, so we returned for the 2023 event. As always, Microscopium provided members and visitors with a good opportunity to dispose of surplus items and to acquire new kit, and also provided an excellent opportunity to meet old friends, make new friends, and gossip over tea and coffee and over lunch. An overtime ban on the trains and the ever-increasing cost of petrol may have kept some people away, but we still had a good crowd of buyers. As usual, there were bargains ranging from filters and bulbs for £1 to slide cabinets, a trinocular Zeiss PrimoStar and a huge Reichert Zetopan outfit.

23rd September, Midlands Meeting at Penkridge

October, Annual Exhibition of Microscopy - Quekex

The event was held for the third time at Elm Court Youth and Community Centre, Potters Bar, Hertfordshire. As usual, there were demonstrations and exhibits by members, displays of the photomicrographs, videos, slides and artwork submitted for awards, lectures, and plenty of gossip. In accordance with tradition, Club President Terry Hope opened the meeting by sounding the Quekett horn. The event and offered both online content and a physical event and saw good attendance at both.

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Topic: Forensic chemical microscopy and the fun of figuring things out by Skip Palenik of Microtrace.
- 14th October 2022 – physical event with displays and awards.
- 14th October 2022 – lectures Fluorescence microscopy and its use in the life science by Nicola Lawrence, Deputy Imaging Facility Manager– Cambridge University and Condenser-free Differential Quantitative Phase Contrast (dPC) microscopy – measuring refractive index using LEDs by Dr. Kevin Webb, Associate Professor in Applied Optics and Electrophysiology, Faculty of Engineering – Nottingham University.

14th November, Lecture – MC Cooke Lecture. "Sticklebacks under the Microscope"
Professor MacColl

Professor MacColl's research interests include the population ecology of vertebrates, the ecology of freshwater fish (especially the stickleback) and fish parasitology. He teaches a second year residential 'Biodiversity Field Course' in Dovedale each year. The lecture was extremely interesting and covered various species from many parts of the world, and some horrible parasites that they are prone to contracting.

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

21st November, Gossip meeting – Dry Mounts in Slip Cases
Former Club President Carel Sartory gave a talk on his method of making slip cases or Plummer Slides for larger specimens. That is for use in mounting whole insects and the like and not tiny forams where such slides are commonly used.

9th December, Lecture and Christmas Quiz
The lecture was given by well-known Dutch microscopist Wim van Edmond on, photomicrography including time lapse video. The traditional quiz was prepared by Robert Ratford and provided an enjoyable end to the Club's year.

Publications

We have used our current printers for many years and used the same bulk mailing service throughout. Over the last couple of years we have had significant problems with delivery of overseas publications, this has resulted in a change of printer and mailing service for the last two publications of 2023. As a result overseas members are now receiving publications in a timely manner.

Journal:

Volume 44 parts 5 and 6, Summer and Winter 2023 respectfully were issued. Dr. Penny Thoys unfortunately had to stand down as Editor early in 2023 due to pressures of work and Part 5 was edited by Phil Greaves. This issue was delayed in production while several contributors completed their articles and was finally issued in September. Several North American members experienced problems in receiving their copy, due to problems with the international shipment.

Dr. Alex Cunningham, a retired oceanographic scientist and Club member based in Glasgow, came forward to volunteer his skills as Editor for the Journal and the Winter issue of the Journal was produced by him, supported by Phil Greaves. Overseas members were able to confirm that the alternative postal arrangements made for this edition were successful.

Bulletin: The Bulletin provides a more magazine-like complement to the academic Journal. Numbers 84 in May and 85 in November 2023 were published with a good complement of our member's wonderful and varied contributions, and it looks as if the positive trends of diversity, number and locations of contributors are continuing. Due to mailing issues with our last printer with Bulletin No 84, we changed to the same printer used by the PMS for Bulletin 85, and this seemed to have resolved the mailing issues, apart from any due to address changes by members. We did have one hiccup in that the first mailing of Bulletin 85 had been mis-bound, resulting in a rather unusual pagination. The printers promptly responded and addressed the issue, sending out the correctly bound version as soon as they could, with profuse apologies. Such errors are extremely rare and some members might want to retain the unusual copy as a novel item, in addition to the corrected one!

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The Club on-line (<https://www.quekett.org>)

The website continues to attract about 200 hits per day from a range of countries, mostly from the UK and US. The Programme page is usually the most popular with some of the Resources pages also well visited, the pages on digital photomicrography being especially sought after. With the advances in photographic techniques, for example much increased resolution of cameras, it is probably time to review these pages and get them updated: it is therefore proposed that a low-key drive is started to encourage those members (and others?) either to revise their existing contributions or to write new ones, and thus enhance the club's contribution to the field. Focus-stacking, shadowless illumination and dark-ground illumination seem to be popular topics.

The WordPress installation continues to work well and is now automatically updated, as are most of the plug-ins (which add functionality to the website) and the UpDraft Plus software, which backs up the entire site on a daily basis. The 'MiniOrange' plugin, which allows members to access all parts of the website via a single sign-on of their username and password, has been a useful part of the major revision of the membership system and, although expensive, provides a much simpler path for members to log in. It also has other, new (for 2024), benefits which will be explored to see how they serve our needs.

Assistance in keeping the website up to date this year has been provided by Alan Wood and Chris Thomas

Collections and archives

The bequeathed collection of mounted slides by the late Doug Richardson have now been fully photographed and records transferred into the Club's slide database. Now this work is complete, loan sets of slides from this collection will be made up in 2024 for members to borrow for personal use, in accordance with the wishes of the donor.

Rationalisation of historical books held in long-term storage at the Club's store room in the Natural History Museum was completed and those books deemed unsuitable for long term conservation in the Club's collections were offered for sale by postal auction at the end of 2023. This has raised funds to allow for professional conservation bookbinding and acid-free archival storage of a small core collection of rare historical books (some dating back to the 18th Century) which the Club plans to share with members by display at the Annual Exhibition and other events.

Possibly due to the increasing costs of postage, and the reduction in the number of meetings held in London, there have been no loans of slide sets or library books in 2023. The Club will continue to promote and develop the loan sets of slides, especially with new material from the Richardson collection, and will review longer-term options for the book lending library, which remains under-utilised.

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Charitable / Outreach Activities

As part of our outreach programme we had a stand at the following events:

- Saturday family morning at Oakdale library, Poole
- Geologists Association Festival of Geology
- MMC2023 Royal Microscopical Society Microscience Exhibition
- Wimbledon Common Nature Day.
- Practical Astronomy Show
- Amateur Entomologists' Society (AES) Members' Day
- Chinbrook Meadows Nature Discovery Day
- Warnham Local Nature Reserve excursion
- Grove Park Carnival
- Wimbledon Common Open Day
- New Scientist Live
- Super Science Saturday at Sidmouth Science Festival
- Chinbrook Meadows Apple Day
- National Honey Show
- British Entomological and Natural History Society (BENHS) Annual Exhibition
- World Microscope Day - a two day Zoom meeting featuring talks and demonstrations by amateur and professional microscopists. Everything was presented in 'real time'.

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The QMC is currently providing the Stromness Museum in Orkney with a grant to catalogue and make accessible online, a valuable collection of more than 4,000 thin rock sections of rocks from the Orkneys, Scotland and rest of the world. This was in response to a visit to the museum by our Orkadian QMC member Alan Jones more than a year ago, written up in the Bulletin, and followed up by Chris Thomas. Promptly designated as the direct contact to the Stromness Museum for oversight of how our funding is being used, Chris visited Stromness and the Museum in September to provide valuable microscopy advice and to see the collection and work in progress. As it was the Orkney Science Festival during his visit, he and Stromness Museum contact Katy Firth also gave a public talk and visited two schools to engage in microscopy related activities with the enthusiastic students. Katy Firth will be reporting on the project later in 2024.

The Milton Microscopy Group of the Quekett (MIMIQ) is a combination of regional meeting and outreach, i.e. open to anyone interested in microscopy. We had 3 key events in the latter half of 2023, which are attracting an increasing number of Cambridgeshire members and some now coming from further afield. Meetings are on a Sunday, roughly quarterly, from 2:30 pm to 5:30 pm.

The September meeting topic was sands from around the world and included making your own slides either on cardboard or the usual microscopy slides from the wide variety of samples from the UK, the Mediterranean to Japan available.

In November, we were able to visit the Imaging Centre of the Gurdon Institute in Cambridge, courtesy of Dr Nicola Lawrence. We were able to see cutting edge bespoke fluorescence, confocal and flat sheet microscopes and have a go ourselves. The imaging facility provides a service to other research groups that would otherwise not be able to afford these highly expensive microscopes.

The events are funded by the Quekett through the payment of the hall fees.

The Anglian Microscopy Group The Anglian Microscopy Group, based in Crowfield, Suffolk, continues to enjoy considerable success with an average attendance at meetings of approximately 30 enthusiastic members. The group continues to be led by Robert Ratford, Gordon Brown and Stephen Durr with a number of regular attendees lending support. In 2023 the group held 12 meetings, including a field trip to Walton on the Naze to study and collect fossils, but the October meeting was regrettably cancelled due to severe flooding in the area. As in 2023 the group had a stand at the village fete, which was very well received by the local populace. As was expected when the group was formed the majority of those who attend are beginners and/or beekeepers, although as most have become regular attendees they are growing in experience. More and more of the regular attendees are choosing to become Quekett members and many join the Quekett Zoom meetings.

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Because the group has been widely publicised and has an active Facebook group, the membership covers a very wide geographic area. The furthest travelled member makes the journey from Pontefract almost every month and others travel from Hertfordshire, Bedford, Peterborough, London, and West Norfolk.

The meetings have covered a very wide range of microscopy subjects and a programme has been developed by the leaders covering the next four years with no repetition. Each meeting comprises an introduction outlining theory and techniques, followed by a practical session where the aim is to ensure each member actually makes something they can take with them. The effect of this is most of the attendees continue this work at home between meetings and results are often to be seen on the Facebook group.

With the aid of a grant from the Quekett the group now has a 75 inch UHD interactive board and camera, which was unveiled by Wim van Egmond at the September meeting. This equipment has greatly improved the quality of the presentations and demonstrations and has allowed us to arrange for Carel Sartory to lead the December meeting from his home in France using Zoom. There are no plans to broadcast the normal monthly meetings over Zoom as the logistics of doing so are extremely difficult.

Overall the Anglian Microscopy Group has been a resounding success in 2023 and will no doubt continue to grow over time.

Outreach events – as can be seen from the list above, members have continued to provide displays with a variety of organisations and at a variety of venues. There are some new events this year and we hope to have more in 2024. These displays depend on members providing the microscopes and expertise and are much appreciated by the public, including many families with children, who attend. We are grateful to these active members and encourage others to join us.

Links to other organisations

Where possible we continue to maintain dialogue with as many other microscopy groups as possible. Attendance at outreach events during the year has led to invitations to set up new events in 2024.

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Advice on Microscopes

Many members and non-members alike use our Facebook page to share images and to enquire about the buying and selling of microscopes, or to ask for historical or technical information. We continue to provide advice to members' families when a member has died and they are not sure how to deal with a member's collection. In some cases members have made a bequest to the Club of items and these may be retained by the Club for use in outreach events or will be sold either in the Members Auction or at one of our sales events.

Conclusion

2023 has been an interesting but difficult year. Although we have had a full programme of events physical meetings have still not seen the return to pre Covid numbers, unfortunately this is something that other groups are also reporting. We have however continued to build and expand on our outreach events and end the year with members having been sent a new programme of events that includes longer in person events at the Natural History Museum which will include a practical element and we hope this will encourage greater attendance.

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES ON THE
UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS OF QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB**

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2023 set out on pages 13 to 14.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiners' report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity, and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and the seeking of explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiners' statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Acthave not been met; or
- to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Neil Harding FCA
Bradshaw Johnson
Chartered Accountants
Croft Chambers,
11 Bancroft
Hitchin
Herts SG5 1JQ



Date: 18 March 2024

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Receipts	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £
Functional Analysis		
Gifts, donations & other Voluntary receipts	51,644	42,849
Receipts From Trading Activities	988	898
Receipts from Assets	4,478	3,446
Sub-total	<u>57,110</u>	<u>47,193</u>
Other receipts (not counting as "Gross Income")	-	11,753
Total receipts	<u>57,110</u>	<u>58,946</u>
Payments		
Functional Analysis		
Payments directly for Charitable Purposes	57,229	37,965
Payments for publicity, fundraising, Management & administration	6,043	13,871
Sub-total	<u>63,272</u>	<u>51,836</u>
Other payments (not counting as "expenditure")	-	5,219
Total Payments	<u>63,272</u>	<u>57,056</u>
Net of Receipts/(Payments)	(6,162)	1,890
Cash funds brought forward	217,086	215,196
Cash funds carried forward	<u>210,924</u>	<u>217,086</u>

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

Cash Funds	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £
Current Account	7,192	8,314
Stripe	1,117	2,082
Deposit Account	100,943	105,051
One Year Bond	100,000	100,000
PayPal Account	1,672	1,640
	210,924	215,196
Less Uncleared	-	-
Total Cash Funds	210,924	215,196

Investment assets	Unrestricted Funds Year End Value	Unrestricted Funds Year End Value
Lion Trust (was Architas) (For Income)	191,458	174,038
Aberdeen Multimanager Funds (For Capital Growth)	195,510	183,177

Assets Retained for the Charity's Own Use

Computer & Peripherals to assist in Club Management
Library of Books for loan to & reference by members
Library of Microscope Slides for loan to & reference by members
Video Library for loan to & reference by members
Microscopes & accessories for use by members
Digital camera & printer for recording the slide collection
Data Projector for use with Power Point Applications

Signed on behalf of the Trustees on 30 January 2024 by:



Stephen Parker – Honorary Treasurer

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

England & Wales - Charity number 232476

Accounts

Charity number: 232476

**QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

CONTENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Page
Legal and administrative information	1
Annual Report of the Committee	2 - 8
Independent examiner's report	9
Receipts and Payments	10
Statement of Assets and Liabilities	11

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Status

The governing document of the charity is the Constitution and Rules of the Quekett Microscopical Club (as amended 2007).

Trustees

Ms Joan Bingley (resigned 8.3.22)
Mr Stephen Parker
Mr Philip Greaves
Dr Christopher Thomas
Mr Alan Wood (resigned 8.3.22)
Mr Paul Smith
Mr Grenham Ireland
Mr Robert Ratford
Mrs Lisa Ashby
Mr Steve Gill
Mr Graham Matthews
Mr Peter Wyn-Jones
Mrs Penelope Ruth Thoyts
Professor Terence Hope (appointed 8.3.22)

Secretary

Mrs Lisa Ashby

Charity number

232476

Business address

31 West Park
Mottingham
London
SE9 4RZ

Independent examiner's

Bradshaw Johnson
Croft Chambers
11 Bancroft
Hitchin
Herts
SG5 1JQ

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

The Committee are pleased to present their annual report for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Membership

At the end of the year 2021 the total membership was 544 now made up of:

- 418 UK based Ordinary Members,
- 123 Overseas Ordinary Members (36 Europe/87 rest of the world).

These numbers include:

- 13 Honorary Members,
- 10 Young Members,
- 18 Complimentary Members,
- 7 Supporting Member organisations.

In August 2022 we moved our membership services away from Royal Society of Biology (RSB). Membership is now dealt with in-house using a software system called SheepCRM. At the time of moving to Sheep we had 522 members.

At the end of the year 2022 the total membership was 535 now made up of:

- 415 UK based Ordinary Members,
- 37 Europe based members,
- 83 Rest of the world members.

These numbers include:

- 503 Adult Members,
- 4 Young Members,
- 5 Complimentary Members,
- 11 Honorary Members,
- 2 Legal depositories,
- 5 Supporting Member organisations.
- 5 Organisations subscribing to the Journal

No Honorary Members were appointed. In the same period Klaus Kemp and Norman Chapman died, they had been Honorary Members since 2016 and 2017 respectively.

Finances

The Club's income for the year amounted to £58,946 (2021: £48,824) and expenditure £57,056 (2021: £40,455). This leads to a surplus for the year (and increase of cash funds) of £1,890 (2021: surplus of £8,369). The Club's cash funds as of 31st December were £217,086 (2021: £215,196), and our investment assets £357,215 (2021: £409,780).

The increase in income (as compared to last year) was principally due to the results of the members' auction. Income from the Geoffrey Owen trust fund remained below pre-Covid levels, though current performance is improving. Our longer-term investments are widely diversified in managed funds but markets did not perform as well as the previous year: in particular bonds had one of their worst years ever. Accordingly our investments had lost value by the year end, but should be doing better currently with improved market conditions.

Your Committee, in looking at the Club's finances, distinguishes between income generated by the Club from its own resources ('operational income') - for example subscriptions and funds from trading - and income from bequests and donations ('donated income').

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

The distinction between the two income streams is important for considering our expenditure. The Committee aims to ensure that the donated income is spent in furtherance of our charitable objects rather than on the administration of the Club, and that the latter is funded by operational income. In 2022 there was a notional surplus of operational income over administrative expenditure, but that was due to the results of the Members' auction, around half of which was returned to Members' estates. However, exceptional expenditure has been incurred in our move from the RSB to Sheep for our membership administration, which move should bring costs down going forward.

The Committee continues to look for further opportunities for charitable spend and has decided upon several projects to pursue during the current financial year.

All figures in this report are rounded to the nearest whole pound

Committee

The Committee for 2022 was composed of

President:	Steve Gill
Vice President:	Terence Hope
Hon. Secretary:	Lisa Ashby
Meetings Secretary:	Paul Smith
Hon. Treasurer:	Stephen Parker
Journal Editor:	Penny Thoyts
Bulletin Editor:	Chris Thomas
Collections and Archives Officer:	Phil Greaves
Webmaster:	Alan Wood and Peter Wyn-Jones
Membership Secretary:	Robert Ratford
Committee Member:	Grenham Ireland (also regional meetings) Graham Matthews

Although ordinary members of the committee are only usually able to stand for a period of three years Covid has limited engagement with many of our members. The Committee therefore agreed by unanimous vote that Grenham Ireland and Graham Matthews would retain their positions on the committee. However, we would be pleased to hear from any members interested in sitting on the committee.

Meetings

This year saw the return of many 'in person' meetings. However, attendance had not returned to pre-Covid levels perhaps also reflecting increased transport costs. Zoom meetings continued and were welcomed by those UK members unable to attend physical meetings and also international members.

8th January Gossip Meeting – My latest acquisition, Zoom only event
Many members had been busy making purchases in the last year!

12th February Home Counties Meeting Surrey – Brookwood Memorial Hall.
Short talks on interesting microscope slides and Thomas Henry Huxley which were also accessible via Zoom. Followed by a gossip meeting.

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

8th March AGM – Natural History Museum (NHM), Angela Marmont Centre.
Election of the committee for the coming year. Session Zoomed for remote attendees.

20th March Practical Slide Making – Northampton Natural History Society (NNHS).
Aimed at beginners the event included the use of LOCA, staining and ringing techniques.

2nd April – Workshop on Contrast enhancement NHM, PA135.
Topics covered included dark ground, Rheinberg, phase and DIC methods.

9th April – Reading Convention. Exhibits and sales in the morning and two talk after lunch.

13th April World Microscope Day Zoom only. 24hrs of microscopy featuring demonstrations of equipment and techniques.

23rd April Gossip Meeting – Langton Matravers Village Hall which also attracted a few local families.

23rd April Midlands Meeting – Haling Dene Centre, Penkrudge Gossip with demonstrations, sales and photo competition, followed by lectures.

10th May Presidential Address – Neil Chalmers Seminar Room, NHM.
Steve Gill's second address, William West (of Leeds & Bradford)

22nd May Excursion – Milton Country Park, Cambridgeshire.
A dozen members and others collected samples and analysed them on site and showed their finds to a number of visitors.

28th May Bournemouth Natural Science Society & Museum (BNSSM.)
Gossip and demonstrations from BNSS and QMC members with outreach to visitors to the museum. Afternoon talk about how chemists use advanced microscope techniques.

11th June Home Counties Meeting Essex – Watt Tyler Country Park, Pitsea.
The park is home to the Essex Field Club. Bill George gave a talk on "The Essex Field Club – Past, Present & Future". Followed by sampling in the local marina and a gossip covering engagement on social media sites as well as cameras and software for photomicrography.

12th July LV Martin Lecture – Neil Chalmers Seminar Room, NHM.
Photo stacking.

15th – 18th July 'Go it alone' practical weekend FSC Flatford Mill FSC, Essex. Emphasis on freshwater biology.

13th August Microscopium – Letchworth Settlement, Hertfordshire.
The major Quekett sales event of the year at a new location but which never disappoints.

18th July Practical Microscopy Weekend, Flatford Mill.
Ideal laboratory facilities and sampling site for pond and river dipping.

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

20th August Gossip meeting – Preparing images for competition Zoom only event.
Lots of tips from the experienced microscopists.

26th – 29th August Microscopists weekend – Malham Tarn, North Yorkshire.
Microscopists residential weekend. Usually held at the Cranedale Centre the event moved this year due to increase costs. Well attended but unfortunately the last event of this kind at this venue which is due for closure as a Field Studies Centre.

10th September Workshop – PA135, NHM.
Filters and spectroscopy.

17th September Midlands meeting – Haling Dene Centre, Penkridge.
Gossip with demonstrations, sales and photo competition, followed by lectures.

24th September Gossip Meeting – Langton Matravers, Dorset.

15th October Annual Exhibition of Microscopy (Quekex) – Elm Court Community Centre
See below for more details.

22nd October East of England Microscopy Meeting – Bradfield St George, Suffolk.
Gossip, exhibits and lectures.

8th November M C Cooke Lecture – Neil Chalmers Seminar Room, NHM.
Identifying plant and bumblebee interactions in an Arctic ecosystem.

10th December Lecture and Christmas Quiz. Zoom only event.
Lecture on The Leitz Heine Phase Contrast System by Phil Greaves and Quiz hosted by Robert Rafford

Annual Exhibition – Quekex

The Annual Exhibition 2022 built on the success of last year's event and offered both online content and a physical event. After a few years impacted by Covid restrictions we saw a good attendance at the event.

- 12th October – Zoom only lecture
Topic: Doctors, scientists and opticians: the place of microscopes in the museum of a medical-'related' profession", by Neil Handley, PhD, AMA, FRSA, College of Optometrists.
- 15th October 2022 – physical event with displays and awards.
- 15th October 2022 – lectures UV Transmission Microscopy – Sunscreens and Diatoms by Jonathan Crowther and Analysing the paper of a 450 year old bible by Chris Thomas.

Very positive feedback was received on all of our lectures and our celebrated member was Spike Walker. The venue once more was Elm Court Youth Centre in Potters Bar.

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Publications

We are aware that some overseas members have experienced delays in receiving their publications. Although we know the UK postal services have been significantly impacted by both industrial action and the cyber-attack, we are investigating this matter.

Journal:

Volume 44 parts 3 and 4, Summer and Winter 2022 respectfully were issued successfully with the Winter edition concluding with an obituary and celebration of the work of Klaus Kemp.

Bulletin: Numbers 82 in May and 83 in November 2022 were compiled as at last we were free of Covid-19 restrictions. The Bulletin provides a more magazine-like complement to the academic Journal. The editor's call for articles by members continued to result in many contributions, though again, the Autumn issue was slimmer than the Spring issue. Authors came from a wide range of interests, expertise, and locations. The number of articles and also the use of more images resulted in 138 and 73 pages of content for the respective editions. The number of contributions for the 2023 spring edition looks as if the trends of diversity, number and locations of contributors is continuing. One key change was the change in printer to the same one used for the journal, with a bit of acclimatisation on both parts, but without a fall in the expected high print quality standard.

The Club on-line (<https://www.quekett.org>)

Peter Wyn-Jones took over as webmaster in March 2022. The principal activity this year has been the upgrading of the website to encompass administration of the new subscription system on the SheepCRM platform. As well as allowing subscribers and members to join the Club and renew their membership, the website will include a 'single sign-on' facility to permit access to the members'-only pages without having to sign in twice. The old WordPress installation (on whose template the site is constructed) is being upgraded to v6.1.1 and PHP (the scripting language) to v8.0.25 to take advantage of security and anti-spam updates and is backed up daily by Updraft Plus. The site now has over 1000 pages, over 12,000 images and over 250 PDFs. Meeting reports, including videos (hosted via Vimeo) of meetings held on Zoom are added regularly. The use of Zoom for meetings has become a more regular occurrence following its approval by members during the COVID-19 pandemic and it has facilitated participation by members worldwide.

We are still exploring ways to extend our use of social media and attract a younger audience. The Twitter page (<https://twitter.com/QuekettMicro>) and the Facebook [page](https://www.facebook.com/quekett) (<https://www.facebook.com/quekett>) are used mainly to announce Club meetings about 10 days in advance, and to provide links to reports of meetings. The Facebook [group](https://www.facebook.com/groups/QuekettMicro) (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/QuekettMicro>) which acts as a forum for members and prospective members to share their experiences and ask for help continued to grow during the COVID-19 pandemic because people stayed at home and surfed the Internet; it now has over 1400 members, several of whom are frequent contributors. The Instagram page (<https://www.instagram.com/quekettmicro/>) showcases some of the most attractive and interesting photos by members.

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Collections and archives

After the COVID restrictions which prevented access to our store room at the Natural History Museum in 2020 and 2021, we were able to recommence work with our collections in mid-2022. No loss, damage or deterioration of the collections is evident from our ~ 2 year absence.

Work at the digital imaging of whole slides has continued and all boxed or cased slides have now been recorded digitally. Transcription of slide label data into the database remains slow and dependent on willing volunteers, but a major achievement will be the transfer of the index to the Doug Richardson slide collection (over 2,000 slides) from his Word document into the Club's Excel database which was commenced in 2022 and will be completed later in 2023.

With the regaining of access to the NHM, and taking into account the post-Covid meeting arrangements which significantly reduce the need for Club microscopes for loan to members at meetings, the Committee has agreed to a reduction in the number of instruments held, with surplus instruments being either sold via a Member's Auction or (for student level instruments), donation to the charity LabAid for schools use in developing nations. A number of books that have been held inaccessible in storage for more than 30 years will also be offered for sale to members. It is expected that the removal and sale of these items will take place in 2023, and provide much needed space in our store room to work on the Club's core collections.

Library

Limited loans of slide sets by postal loan only was recommenced, with two sets being loaned out on a trial basis to establish postal costs and safe packaging solutions; this will be expanded in 2023 with more loan sets available. However the costs of sending loan library books by post appears to make this service untenable and we need to give due consideration to how the loan library service can be re-initiated for members.

Charitable / Outreach Activities

As part of our outreach programme we had a stand at the following events:

- Super Science Saturday at the Sidmouth Science Festival, Devon.
- The National Honey Show. Sandown Park Racecourse, Surrey.
- The British Entomological and Natural History Society Show, London.
- Wimbledon Common Weekend of Nature, London.

New this year Quekett have been able to attend two events at Chinbrook Meadows in South East London, Apple Day and the Grove Park Carnival. The events attracted lots of members of the public and our stand proved popular. Our attendance is in support with another charity organisation Thames21 who are working to improve the quality of the river that runs through the meadows giving us plenty of opportunity for sampling.

The Arkwright Scholarship event took place in the Angela Marmot Centre at the NHM, this was our 7th face to face event workshop, with several members supporting the students throughout the day.

New Scientist Live took place at the Excel centre London over four days and again saw lots of interests from the visitors to the Quekett stand. A number of members supported us at the event but more volunteers are always welcome.

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

World Microscope Day again took place over a full 24 hours and was open to anyone who wanted to join in. This event is becoming a popular fixture in our calendar and we hope to continue to build on its success.

This year also saw us set up some regional groups.

The Milton Group of the Quekett MIMIQ is accessible for members in and around Cambridgeshire. Doors are open for visitors from the Village and we do get a couple of families coming in to have a look. Building on this the group will continue into the 2023 programme and will also be collaborating with the Norris Museum and are hosting a full day at the Museum on World Microscope Day.

The Anglian Microscopy Group based in Crowfield this group had 10 meetings with a structured programme, led by Robert Ratford, Gordon Brown and Stephen Durr. The majority of those that who attended the meetings are beginners supported by some of our more experienced members. The meetings have an introduction outlining theory and techniques and the bulk of the sessions are practical application. Most attendees continue to work at home. The group also have their own Facebook Group where you can see examples of the activities and the work that people have accomplished at home. All of the sessions so far have been successful with good attendance. The group also partook in the Village Fair which attracted 100+ people. We now hold the record for the highest number of Morrismen simultaneously using microscopes. Several beginners are now Quekett Microscopical Club members.

Links to other organisations

Where possible we continue to maintain dialogue with as many other microscopy groups as possible.

Advice on Microscopes

On social media our Facebook page continues to receive enquiries regarding buying and selling of microscopes, technical and historical research. We also receive enquiries from members looking to bequeath items to the Club or where families need advice about how to deal with a deceased member's collection. Having dealt with many such enquiries we are always able to offer advice.

Conclusion

2022 has indeed been a tale of two halves with the beginning of the year still seeing the effects of Covid on attendance levels and the end of the year being hit with transport issues.

Despite the return to physical meetings your Committee have been working hard behind the scenes. The biggest project has been to move the membership management away from The Royal Society of Biology (RSB) and bring it back in house. This has been a huge amount of work particularly for the, Membership Secretary, Webmaster and Hon Secretary. The final piece of this transition happens with a change to how members access the members' pages of the website.

We ended the year with another full programme being sent to members which includes both physical and virtual events.

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES ON THE
UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS OF QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB**

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2022 set out on pages 10 to 11.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiners' report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity, and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and the seeking of explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiners' statement

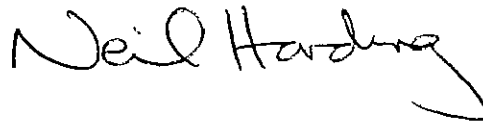
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

- to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Neil Harding FCA
Bradshaw Johnson
Chartered Accountants
Croft Chambers,
11 Bancroft
Hitchin
Herts SG5 1JQ



Date: 20 | 3 | 23

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Receipts	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £
Functional Analysis		
Gifts, donations & other Voluntary receipts	42,849	45,884
Receipts From Trading Activities	898	912
Receipts from Assets	3,446	2,027
Sub-total	47,193	48,824
Other receipts (not counting as "Gross Income")	11,753	-
Total receipts	58,946	48,824
Payments		
Functional Analysis		
Payments directly for Charitable Purposes	37,965	30,671
Payments for publicity, fundraising, Management & administration	13,871	9,749
Sub-total	51,836	40,420
Other payments (not counting as "expenditure")	5,219	35
Total Payments	57,056	40,455
Net of Receipts/(Payments)	1,890	8,369
Cash funds brought forward	215,196	206,827
Cash funds carried forward	217,086	215,196

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

Cash Funds	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £
Current Account Stripe	8,314 2,082	13,924 -
Deposit Account	105,051	100,103
One Year Bond	100,000	100,000
PayPal Account	1,640	1,169
	217,086	215,196
Less Uncleared	-	-
Total Cash Funds	217,086	215,196

Investment assets	Unrestricted Funds Year End Value	Unrestricted Funds Year End Value
Lion Trust (was Architas) (For Income)	174,038	206,469
Aberdeen Multimanager Funds (For Capital Growth)	183,177	203,311

Assets Retained for the Charity's Own Use

Computer & Peripherals to assist in Club Management
Library of Books for loan to & reference by members
Library of Microscope Slides for loan to & reference by members
Video Library for loan to & reference by members
Microscopes & accessories for use by members
Digital camera & printer for recording the slide collection
Data Projector for use with Power Point Applications

Signed on behalf of the Trustees on 11 January 2023 by:



Stephen Parker – Honorary Treasurer

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

England & Wales - Charity number 232476

Accounts

Charity number: 232476

**QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

CONTENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Page
Legal and administrative information	1
Annual Report of the Committee	2 - 8
Independent examiner's report	9
Receipts and Payments	10
Statement of Assets and Liabilities	11

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Status

The governing document of the charity is the Constitution and Rules of the Quekett Microscopical Club (as amended 2007).

Trustees

Ms Joan Bingley
Mr Stephen Parker
Mr Philip Greaves
Dr Christopher Thomas
Mr Alan Wood
Mr Paul Smith
Mr Grenham Ireland
Mr Robert Ratford
Mrs Lisa Ashby
Mr Steve Gill
Mr Graham Matthews
Mr Peter Wyn-Jones
Mrs Penelope Ruth Thoyts

Secretary

Mrs Lisa Ashby

Charity number

232476

Business address

31 West Park
Mottingham
London
SE9 4RZ

Independent examiner's

Bradshaw Johnson
Croft Chambers
11 Bancroft
Hitchin
Herts
SG5 1JQ

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

The Committee are pleased to present their annual report for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Membership

At the end of the year 2021 the total membership was 544 (2020 506) now made up of:

- 418 UK based Ordinary Members,
- 123 Overseas Ordinary Members (36 Europe/87 rest of the world).

These numbers include:

- 13 Honorary Members,
- 10 Young Members,
- 18 Complimentary Members,
- 7 Supporting Member organisations.

There were 91 new or re-joining members in 2021, in the same period unfortunately 9 members died, 29 resigned and 15 lapsed.

No Honorary Members were appointed.

Finances

The Club's income for the year amounted to £48,824 (2020: £50,761) and expenditure £40,455 (2020: £37,082). This leads to a surplus for the year (and increase of cash funds) of £8,369 (2020: surplus of £13,679). The Club's cash funds as of 31st December were £215,196 (2020: £206,827), and our investment assets £409,780 (2020: £381,201).

The continued drop in income (as compared to 2019) was principally due to lower income from the Geoffrey Owen trust fund. Current yields remain depressed due to low interest rates and Covid-19's economic impact. However, Covid-19 has also reduced the Club's expenditure (given, amongst other matters, reduced payments for meeting rooms & decreased opportunities for charitable spend).

Your Committee, in looking at the Club's finances, distinguishes between income generated by the Club from its own resources ('operational income') - for example subscriptions and funds from trading - and income from bequests and donations ('donated income').

The distinction between the two income streams is important for considering our expenditure. The Committee aims to ensure that the donated income is spent in furtherance of our charitable objects rather than on the administration of the Club, and that the latter is funded by operational income.

In 2021 both operational and donated income contributed to the surplus above.

The Committee will continue to look for further opportunities for charitable spend, and has a number of ideas to pursue during the current financial year.

All figures in this report are rounded to the nearest whole pound.

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Committee

The Committee for 2021 was composed of

President:	Steve Gill
Vice President:	Joan Bingley
Hon. Secretary:	Lisa Ashby
Meetings Secretary:	Paul Smith
Hon. Treasurer:	Stephen Parker
Journal Editor:	Penny Thoyts
Bulletin Editor:	Chris Thomas
Collections and Archives Officer:	Phil Greaves
Webmaster:	Alan Wood and Peter Wyn-Jones
Membership Secretary:	Robert Ratford
Committee Member:	Grenham Ireland (also regional meetings) Mr Graham Matthews

Meetings in 2020

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic and government restrictions on gatherings, most of the meetings took place via Zoom. All the meetings were well attended, both by members who would normally attend in person but especially by members, near and far, who would not normally have been able to attend due to distance, etc. It is the intention of the Club to include a Zoom component in future meetings. The use of Zoom allowed the Club to exchange meetings with the New York Microscopical Society. Unfortunately, copyright issues meant that the meetings were not recorded.

9th January, Gossip Meeting – My Latest Microscopical Acquisition
An opportunity for members to show their latest purchases, presents etc.

13th February, Gossip Meeting – Books that Encouraged Me to Take Up Microscopy as a Hobby
A fine exhibition of actual books (sign of the age of members?) although a lot are now available somewhere on the internet. Interestingly, some books were presented by several members as being influential.

20th February, Lecture – Tardigrades
A chance to join the New York Microscopical Society.

9th March, Annual General Meeting (154th)
A necessary but not necessarily microscopically interesting meeting, whereby the administration of the Club was performed.

13th April, M. C. Cooke Lecture – The Marvellous Mister Towne
A talk given by the curator of the Gordon Museum about a maker of lifelike models of human illnesses, boils, ulcers, etc.

13th April, World Microscope Day
A 24 hour Zoom meeting to celebrate the history of the microscope! A series of short talks, demos, etc.

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

4th May, Presidential Address

Steve Gill's first address on the theme of 'Collaboration'.

8th June, Gossip Meeting – Re-purposing Every Day Objects for Microscopy

A wide range of objects recycled for use in microscopy. e.g. turkey baster = giant pipette.

13th July, Gossip Meeting – Building a Zoom Practical Meeting

Things to consider when setting up a demonstration for transmission via Zoom.

7th August, Lecture

Another chance to join with the New York Microscopical Society for a lecture, Making Lenses at Home; Grit, Fire and Metal.

10th August, Gossip Meeting – Objectives and Numerical Aperture (N.A.)

An exhibition of objectives from different manufacturers and different ages. The effect of different N.A., on the image and how to measure the N.A. with simple apparatus.

19th August, Microscopium – The Microscopists Fair

An actual face-to-face meeting held at the Elm Court Youth and Community Centre, Potters Bar, a new location for this meeting. The opportunity was taken to set up a mobile hot spot and Zoom a general view of the activities as a 'proof of concept'. The hot spot was a dedicated device using a mobile phone data only SIM card.

27th – 30th August, Microscopists' Weekend at Cranedale Centre

Face-to-face meeting with slide making and talks.

3rd – 5th September, Microscopists' Meeting at Malham Tarn

Face-to-face meeting with pond dipping and talks.

14th September, gossip meeting – free form

An opportunity to talk and ask questions without the restriction of a theme.

18th September, West Midlands (Penkridge) Autumn Meeting

A face to face joint meeting with the Postal Microscopy Society, exhibits, sales and talks. (Associated Zoom events are detailed elsewhere)

3rd October, Annual Exhibition of Microscopy (Quekex)

A face-to-face meeting held at the Elm Court Youth and Community Centre. A wide range of exhibits and demonstrations of microscopical techniques. Including two lectures Electron Microscopes in the Garage by Dave Furness and Surviving the Elements, fossils from Mount Everest by Owen Green. The two lectures were also 'Zoomed' for members who were not able to join us in person.

6th October, Online Lecture

Microscope and Slide Makers Through History by Brian Stevenson. Part of the Quekex Annual Exhibition week.

8th October, Gossip Meeting

Part of the Quekex Annual Exhibition week, a free-form gossip and award announcements.

9th October, Sidmouth Science Festival

Face to face meeting where the Club had a stand demonstrating microscopy.

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

16th October, South Coast (Langton Matravers) Autumn Meeting
Face to face meeting, exhibits and demonstrations.

22nd – 24th October, The National Honey Show
Although still limited by virus precautions the Club put on a small display in the Trade Hall. There were plenty of visitors as we were the only group exhibiting microscopes.

23rd October, East of England Meeting
Face to face meeting with the Eastern Counties Microscopy Study Group and the Icen Microscopy Study Group. Exhibits, sales and talks.

6th – 7th November, Geologists' Association – Festival of Geology
Virtual meeting where the Club had a virtual stand demonstrating microscopy.

13th November, L.V. Martin Lecture – Insect photography
A talk by Penny Metal on close up or macro photography of the insect life in a local park.

4th December, Gossip Meeting – Christmas Quiz and Lecture
A 'Zoomed' meeting with a microscopy general knowledge quiz followed by a talk on Rheinberg Illumination delivered by Carel Sartory.

Annual Exhibition

The Annual Exhibition 2021 built on the success of last year's event and offered both online contents and a physical event. For the first time lectures were transmitted live for people who were not able to attend.

- Sunday 3rd – our live event with lectures, demonstrations and displays.
- Tuesday 5th – award entries were available on the website.
- Wednesday 6th – an online lecture.
- Friday 8th – an online gossip and announcement of the award winners.

Reflecting on people's nervousness to travel on public transport and/or into central London, the venue was Elm Court Youth Centre in Potters Bar. This venue allowed us plenty of space and we will be returning there next year.

Publications

Journal: A new editor, Penny Thoyts has taken over the Quekett Journal of microscopy. Part 1 of Volume 44 was issued in Summer 2021 (June) and was well supported with authors' submissions on a variety of subjects. The last issue of Volume 44 (Part 2) was issued in November 2021 and was somewhat slimmer. It also included the catalogue for the Quekett Members' 2021 auction. There are numerous contributions for the next issue.

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Bulletin: Numbers 80 in May and 81 in October 2021 were compiled as the Covid-19 epidemic continued and most of us were still under some form of restriction. The Bulletin provides a more magazine-like complement to the academic Journal. Despite the global pandemic, the editor's call for articles by members continued to result in many contributions, though the Autumn issue was slimmer than the Spring issue. Authors came from a wide range of interests, expertise and locations. The number of articles and also the use of more images resulted in 118 and 63 pages of content for the respective editions. The number of contributions for the 2022 spring edition looks as if the trends of diversity, number and locations of contributors is continuing.

The Club on-line

The Club's website (<https://www.quekett.org>) continued under the care of webmaster Alan Wood, assisted by Peter Wyn-Jones who will take over in March 2022. The WordPress installation is kept up to date to take advantage of security updates, and is backed up daily by VaultPress. The site now has over 1000 pages, over 11,000 images and over 250 PDFs. Twenty-one meeting reports were added during the year, including reports of several meetings that were held via Zoom because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Sixteen videos were added, including recordings of gossip meetings that were held via Zoom.

We are still exploring ways to extend our use of social media and attract a younger audience. The Twitter page (<https://twitter.com/QuekettMicro>) and the Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/quekett>) are used mainly to announce Club meetings about 10 days in advance, and to provide links to reports of meetings. The Facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/QuekettMicro>) that acts as a forum for members and prospective members to share their experiences and ask for help continued to grow during the COVID-19 pandemic because people stayed at home and surfed the Internet; it now has over 1400 members, several of whom are frequent contributors. The Instagram page (<https://www.instagram.com/quekettmicro/>) showcases some of the most attractive and interesting photos by members.

Collections and archives

Access to our collections held at the Natural History Museum has not been possible for most of 2021 due to Covid-related restrictions for visitors to the museum and this has restricted our ability to progress with an up-to-date inventory of microscopes and equipment. We were able to arrange access in November (the first visit in 18 months) and were able to confirm that all of our collections and archives are intact and undamaged. It is anticipated that regular access will be possible in 2022, allowing progress with the development of the inventory.

As most of our slide collection has been digitally imaged, progress with slide transcriptions has not been unduly affected by the pandemic, with a team or approximately 15 volunteers guided by Jacky McPherson and Pam Hamer recording information from the slide labels into a database. Currently approximately 6,000 slides, around 30% of our collections, have been transcribed in this way.

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

The Club was grateful to receive several donations and bequests of equipment in 2021. The Eric Hollowday bequest consisted of several microscopes, mounted slides of rotifers and original notebooks of freshwater microscopy made by Eric and containing his original drawings and watercolours. These are of exceptional significance to the Club and will be preserved in our archives collections; plans for how to share these notebooks through digitization are currently being explored. A donation of microscope test slides belonging to Dr. Michael Bingley was received from his widow Joan. A small collection of books on rotifers and correspondence papers was received from Hanne Bailson.

Two large collections of modern microscopes, optics and accessories were received from Mr. Bryan Tabor and a separate anonymous donation. Several of these microscopes will be retained by the Club and will be loaned for outreach projects, with the remainder sold to raise funds for future projects.

Library

No loans of slide sets or books have been possible in 2021 due to the access restrictions at the NHM but we hope that at least a limited lending service will become possible in 2022.

Charitable

/

Outreach

Activities

After a year when few live public microscope displays were held, it was exciting to have two in the autumn of 2021! On 9th October the Sidmouth Science Festival committee decided to have a reduced version of their Super Science Saturday. In 2021 the Club display, hosted by Joan Bingley and Pam Hamer, was adjacent to the venue used for geological lectures, so we were housed in the church hall with the local Geologists Association group, the Geological Society and the University physics club. The day was punctuated by the latter group counting down the launches of their air powered rockets! The second event was at the National Honey Show 21-24th October. We have attended this for many years, supporting Norman Chapman with his superb collection of drawings of pollen grains with some examples of microscopes which beekeepers might consider useful for their work. Our microscope display with Alan Wood and Pam Hamer was more limited this year and Norman was only present for one of the three days. We were however able to come to the rescue of one of the lecturers who needed a microscope for her presentation.

Apart from those live displays there were Club displays in the virtual events organised for the Royal Microscopical Society mmc21 and for the Geologists Association Festival of Geology. Both of these were set up to show examples of the activities of Club members to the delegates who registered for these events.

The Arkwright workshop we would normally hold in November 2021 was re-scheduled to January 2022. It was once again a Zoom based workshop run by Chris Thomas and Pam Hamer, with technical assistance by Grenham Ireland with a similar format to the previous year.

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

The Club continues to provide grants to the Microbiology in Schools Advisory Committee (MiSac), Reading Microscopical Society, Leeds Microscopical Society and The Postal Microscopical Society (PMS). In addition to this we have also provided a grant to Imperial College London for field work to support the building of a palynological reference library of Arctic flora; and have agreed to provide another to University of Roehampton, for field work to study parasite communities of three-spined stickleback fish populations at the southernmost limit of the species' distribution.

Links to other organisations

Where possible we continue to maintain dialogue with as many other microscopy groups as possible. Where events such as Quekex are held we continue our efforts to contact other societies and groups who are local and may have a shared interest in our activities.

Advice on Microscopes

On social media our Facebook page continues to receive enquiries regarding buying and selling of microscopes, technical and historical research. This acts like a forum and allows members and non-members alike to respond. Queries received through the website are normally passed to the appropriate committee or Club member. We also receive enquiries from members looking to bequeath items to the Club or where families need advice about how to deal with a deceased member's collection. It is always a sensitive subject but the Club is able to provide advice and/or assistance having dealt with many such enquiries.

Conclusion

It is possible that we are seeing the light at the end of the tunnel with regards to the Covid 19 pandemic, or at least some respite. The year saw us hold some physical meetings although numbers perhaps may not have been as good as usual years where people were still nervous of travel or shielding etc. As you would expect events involved more rules and regulations were put in place to ensure member's safety.

The end of the year saw the return of a member's auction, with a bumper number of lots available. Although most of our auctions are made up of items bequeathed to the Club this is not always the case, we can also assist members who would like to downsize their collections. This year's event was well supported with the majority of lots being sold.

The committee ended the year by planning a full programme of physical events for 2022 a sign of optimism for the coming year. Some of the short evening meetings are becoming full day events and a few are being taken outside of London to the Home Counties. The committee very much looks forward to seeing members there.

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES ON THE UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS OF QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2021 set out on pages 10 to 11.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiners' report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity, and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and the seeking of explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiners' statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Acthave not been met; or
- to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Neil Harding FCA
Bradshaw Johnson
Chartered Accountants
Croft Chambers,
11 Bancroft
Hitchin
Herts SG5 1JQ

Date: 30 March 2022

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Receipts	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Unrestricted Funds 2020 £
Functional Analysis		
Gifts, donations & other Voluntary receipts	45,884	45,792
Receipts From Trading Activities	912	992
Receipts from Assets	2,027	3,977
Sub-total	<u>48,824</u>	<u>50,761</u>
Other receipts (not counting as "Gross Income")	-	-
Total receipts	<u>48,824</u>	<u>50,761</u>
Payments		
Functional Analysis		
Payments directly for Charitable Purposes	30,671	25,158
Payments for publicity, fundraising, Management & administration	9,749	11,644
Sub-total	<u>40,420</u>	<u>36,802</u>
Other payments (not counting as "expenditure")	35	280
Total Payments	<u>40,455</u>	<u>37,082</u>
Net of Receipts/(Payments)	8,369	13,679
Cash funds brought forward	206,827	193,148
Cash funds carried forward	<u>215,196</u>	<u>206,827</u>

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

Cash Funds	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2020 £
Current Account	13,924	6,002
Deposit Account	100,103	100,093
One Year Bond	100,000	100,000
Paypal Account	1,169	732
	215,196	206,827
Less Uncleared	-	-
Total Cash Funds	215,196	206,827

Investment assets	Unrestricted Funds Year End Value	Unrestricted Funds Year End Value
Lion Trust (was Architas) (For Income)	206,469	191,234
Aberdeen Multimanager Funds (For Capital Growth)	203,311	189,967

Assets Retained for the Charity's Own Use

Computer & Peripherals to assist in Club Management
Library of Books for loan to & reference by members
Library of Microscope Slides for loan to & reference by members
Video Library for loan to & reference by members
Microscopes & accessories for use by members
Digital camera & printer for recording the slide collection
Data Projector for use with Power Point Applications

Signed on behalf of the Trustees on 5th February 2022 by:

Stephen Parker – Honorary Treasurer

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

England & Wales - Charity number 232476

Accounts

Charity number: 232476

**QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

CONTENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Page
Legal and administrative information	1
Annual Report of the Committee	2 - 8
Independent examiner's report	9
Receipts and Payments	10
Statement of Assets and Liabilities	11

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Status

The governing document of the charity is the Constitution and Rules of the Quekett Microscopical Club (as amended 2007).

Trustees

Ms Joan Bingley
Mr Stephen Parker
Mr Philip Greaves
Dr Christopher Thomas
Mr Alan Wood
Mr Paul Smith
Mr Grenham Ireland
Mr Robert Ratford
Mrs Lisa Ashby
Mr Steve Gill
Mr Graham Matthews (appointed 10 March 2020)

Secretary

Mrs Lisa Ashby

Charity number

232476

Business address

31 West Park
Mottingham
London
SE9 4RZ

Independent examiner's

Bradshaw Johnson
Croft Chambers
11 Bancroft
Hitchin
Herts
SG5 1JQ

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

The Committee are pleased to present their annual report for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Membership

At the end of the year 2020 the total membership was 506 (2019 503) now made up of:

403 UK based Ordinary Members,
103 Overseas Ordinary Members (26 Europe/77 rest of the world).

These numbers include:

15 Honorary Members,
11 Young Members,
12 Complimentary Members,
7 Supporting Member organisations.

There were 60 new or re-joining members in 2020, in the same period unfortunately 7 members died, 17 resigned and 33 lapsed.

Carol Sartory, Joan Bingley and John Gustav Delly were all elected Honorary Members during the last year recognising both contributions to the field of microscopy as well as to The Club.

Finances

The Club's income for the year amounted to £50,761 (2019: £62,897) and expenditure £37,082 (2019: £63,661). This leads to a surplus for the year (and increase of cash funds) of £13,679 (2019: deficit of £763).

The Club's cash funds as of 31st December were £206,827 (2019: £193,148), and our investment assets £381,201 (2019: £370,015).

The drop in income was principally due to lower income from the Geoffrey Owen trust fund. Covid-19's economic impact has resulted in lower, or passed, dividends and low interest rates. Covid-19 has also reduced the Club's expenditure (given, amongst other matters, reduced payments for meeting rooms & decreased opportunities for charitable spend). All figures in this report are rounded to the nearest whole pound.

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Committee

The Committee for 2020 was composed of

President:	Joan Bingley (to 10 th March); Steve Gill thereafter
Vice President:	Steve Gill (to 10 th March); Joan Bingley thereafter
Hon. Secretary:	Lisa Ashby
Meetings Secretary:	Paul Smith
Hon. Treasurer:	Stephen Parker
Journal Editor:	Phil Greaves
Bulletin Editor:	Chris Thomas
Collections Officer:	Dennis Fullwood (until 2 nd May 2020)*
Archives Officers:	Phil Greaves
Webmaster:	Alan Wood
Membership Secretary:	Robert Ratford
Committee Member:	Grenham Ireland

*Following the death of Dennis Fullwood the position of Collections Officer has remained vacant with Phil Greaves providing a watching brief.

Meetings in 2020

January 11th - Gossip Meeting 'My Latest Microscopical Acquisition'
A popular meeting cunningly scheduled to take place after Christmas!

February 22nd - Workshop on the Doug Richardson slide collection.
A chance to view some of the nearly 2,500 slides bequeathed to the club. Ultimately some of the slides will form part of the loan collection. A foothold in the task has been established with the nearly complete photography of the all the slides. Steps remaining are transcription of the label information into database, access for members via the website and the physical loan of slides to members.

March 10th - 153rd Annual General Meeting

The usual nuts and bolts bureaucracy required legally to run a Club like the Quekett.

Due to Covid-19 lockdown all scheduled meetings were suspended until the Club got used to hosting Zoom meetings. We now have to ability to host virtual meetings of up to 100 attendees. The upside of meetings no longer being location dependent is that attendance has increased. Zoom meetings have enabled participation of many of our overseas members (eg. USA, Canada, New Zealand) in Gossip meetings which has been one advantage of an otherwise disrupted meetings schedule. Zoom meetings are recorded and available to view by members on the website.

July 7th - Gossip Meeting 'Hairs and Fibres'

A meeting on how to study hairs and fibres under the microscope, included was a simple 'trap' to gather hairs from passing rodents!

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

July 25th – Joint Meeting with the Bournemouth Natural History Society
A well-attended meeting that leaned heavily towards the use of polarised light.

August 11th – Gossip Meeting ‘Slides by Ernie Ives’
Ernie was an enthusiastic microscopist and a prolific maker of slides and was particularly known for his slides of sections of wood.

September 28th to October 3rd – Annual Exhibition of Microscopy
A week long Zoom meeting, although fortunately occupying only a couple of hours per day. See below for more details.

October 22nd to 24th – The National Honey Show
Under normal conditions the Club has a stand in the Trade Hall, this year the Club had web space in the virtual Trade Hall.

November 7th – Festival of Geology
Organised by the Geologists’ Association and held online. The Club had a display of information in the section devoted to Local Groups and Societies.

December 5th – Christmas Meeting
The usual General Knowledge (Microscopy) quiz prepared this time by Robert Ratford and a short talk on the Slides of Richard Suter by Phil Greaves.

Annual Exhibition

The Annual Exhibition 2020 was for the first time in the Clubs history forced to become an online event. As a result the event was held over several days from 28th September 2020 until 3rd October 2020.

Each day there was a different component

Monday 28th – The website went live with members’ exhibits on their Lockdown Microscopy Projects

Tuesday 29th – Lecture, Robert Hooke an early microscopist by Terry Hope.

Wednesday 30th – Entries for the Barnard, Marson and Quekett Art awards were available on the website

Thursday 1st – Lecture, Magnetic Resonance Imaging by Matthew Clemence.

Friday 2nd – A gossip meeting on Lockdown Microscopy.

Saturday 3rd – Lecture, Art beyond the range of ordinary vision by Gwyneth Thurgood.
Followed by the announcement of the recipients of the Award certificates.

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

There were over 20 entries to the main exhibit and entries for the award categories were also plentiful with judges remarking on the high quality of the entries.

Feedback following the event was on the whole very positive and with good participation from members not only outside of London but outside of the UK participating for the first time. This resulted in requests to include a digital component to future events.

Publications

Journal: Part 7 of Volume 43 was issued in Summer 2020 and was a 'bumper' issue, having been well supported with authors' submissions on a variety of subjects. The last issue of Volume 43 (Part 8) was unfortunately delayed late in the production process with printing scheduled for early February 2021. This being the end of the volume, it will contain both a full index and a listing of members and their interests (limited to those members who gave express permission for their details to be printed, in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation).

Bulletin: Numbers 78 in May and 79 in October 2020 were compiled as the Covid-19 epidemic spread and most of us were in Lockdown or isolation as many of us are, shall we say, of mature years. The Bulletin provides a more magazine-like complement to the academic Journal. Despite the global pandemic, the editor's call for articles by members resulted in more contributions, which counterbalanced the decline on the number of events reported as physical meetings had to be cancelled. Authors came from a wide range of interests, expertise and locations. The number of articles and also the use of more images resulted in 125 and 104 pages of content for the respective editions, again requiring a perfect bound booklet. The number of contributions for the 2021 spring edition looks as if the trends of diversity, number and locations of contributors is continuing.

The Club on-line: The Club's website (www.quekett.org) continued under the care of webmaster Alan Wood and has been updated to HTTPS so that passwords and messages are transmitted securely. The WordPress installation is kept up to date to take advantage of security updates, and is backed up daily by VaultPress. The site now has over 1000 pages, over 10,500 images and over 750 PDFs. Only 10 meeting reports were added during the year as many events had to be cancelled because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Twelve videos were added, including recordings of gossip meetings that were held via Zoom.

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

We are still exploring ways to extend our use of social media and attract a younger audience. The Twitter page (<https://twitter.com/QuekettMicro>) and the Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/quekett>) are used mainly to announce Club meetings about 10 days in advance, and to provide links to reports of meetings. The Facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/QuekettMicro>) that acts as a forum for members and prospective members to share their experiences and ask for help has grown substantially during the COVID-19 pandemic because people stayed at home and surfed the Internet; it now has over 1200 members, several of whom are frequent contributors. The Instagram page (<https://www.instagram.com/quekettmicro/>) showcases some of the most attractive and interesting photos by members.

Collections

Progress with the Club's Collections (slides, library and archives) was severely impacted by both the COVID-19 pandemic which prevented any access to our stores from late March, and due to the sad death of Mr. Dennis Fullwood, Collections Officer, in May 2020.

However, before the first lockdown, a successful meeting was held in February to explore the Doug Richardson slide collection, and several sets of slides were loaned out to members for them to progress field entry from the slide labels into the database.

Late in 2020, the Club was offered a bronze medallion of John Green Waller who served as President of the Quekett from 1896 to 1898 and purchase of this was arranged through an anonymous donation. The medallion is a valuable addition to our archives collection and especially so for a President who is otherwise poorly represented in our collections.

Archives

Unfortunately all of our archives that had been held in temporary storage outside London were returned to the Club's store room at the Natural History Museum in late 2019 and have been inaccessible since March 2020 due to COVID restrictions. Consequently there has been little progress with the archives in 2020 although the opportunity has been taken to tidy up and correct existing entries into the database.

Library

Four books were loaned prior to lockdown and these remain with the borrowers. We also received two requests for slides during the same time but have been unable to send these out as the library resources remain within the Natural History Museum.

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Charitable / Outreach Activities

Inevitably the restrictions this year due to the virus outbreak led to the cancellation of all outreach events involving attendance of the public. We hope the Weston Super Mare Big Bang and the Sidmouth Science Festival will return to our programme eventually.

The organisers of the two autumn events, the Geologists' Association (GA) Festival of Geology and the National Honey Show made heroic and very effective efforts to re-organise them with a platform for digital presentations by the groups whose display stands usually provide a vibrant public show. Our contribution led to a significant increase in visitors to our website over the GA Festival weekend as we highlighted the geological use of microscopes. Our website also provided an answer to the competition organised for the GA's childrens' section – Rockwatch. The Honey Show provided us with another opportunity to highlight the benefits of microscopy to beekeepers with a digital presentation.

For several years we have organised a hands-on microscopy workshop at the Museum for the Arkwright Scholars. These students, in their last couple of years at school, have an interest in engineering and science careers. Chris Thomas and Pam Hamer collaborated to run a Saturday Zoom workshop for 10 of the students highlighting the development of microscopes and the type of specimens which can be examined. An objective and eyepiece lens was sent to each student to test their engineering skills in making a useable microscope to image and photograph a specimen of their choice. Models were made from cardboard, plastic items and Lego with each student explaining how it worked. This was a pioneering exercise both for the charity sponsoring the students and for the Club. The feedback from the students was very positive.

Looking forward it seems likely that there will be further virtual Outreach events in 2021 and the experience we had this year provides ideas to develop.

Prior to lockdown on March 14th the Reading Convention was held in St Peter's Church Hall, Earley nr Reading. A meeting of displays, sales and talks in the afternoon. Despite some new attendees, attendance overall was slightly down, this being attributed to the early Covid-19 situation.

The Club continues to provide grants to the Microbiology in Schools Advisory Committee (MiSac), Reading Microscopical Society, Leeds Microscopical Society, The Postal Microscopical Society (PMS), and the Malham Tarn Field Studies Centre; as well as £500 for adoption of the Micrarium at the Grant Museum UCL.

For many years Kit Brownlee has represented The Club on MiSac however, due to ill health, she retired this position and Phil Greaves has taken over representation.

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Links to other organisations

With many Clubs and Societies facing difficult times we continue to maintain dialogue with as many of them as possible, offering support and the use of facilities such as the Club Zoom account.

Following an article placed in the Bulletin by the New York Microscopical Society we have been working to build on this new relationship arranging to share in some joint meetings in 2021.

Advice on Microscopes

The website and social media continue to receive enquiries regarding buying and selling of microscopes, technical expertise as well as historical research. These are usually shared among either committee members or passed to members with specialist knowledge. This year some have also been shared within the Bulletin.

Conclusion

This year has been a challenging one for The Club having been in a situation where there has been hardly any opportunity for physical events since our last AGM.

The lack of opportunity to meet did mean that we have started four new projects for members to become involved in. Although intended to originally take place over short periods the committee have taken the decision to continue them indefinitely along with a re-launch of the Spotted Winged Drosophila project.

The committee look forward to a time when we can once more hold events in person. In the meantime we remain committed to offering live online content to our members wherever possible and acknowledge the support of the members in making this viable.

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES ON THE UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS OF QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2020 set out on pages 10 to 11.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiners' report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity, and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and the seeking of explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiners' statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Acthave not been met; or
- to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Neil Harding FCA
Bradshaw Johnson
Chartered Accountants
Croft Chambers,
11 Bancroft
Hitchin
Herts SG5 1JQ

Date: 19 April 2021

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Receipts	Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Unrestricted Funds 2019 £
Functional Analysis		
Gifts, donations & other Voluntary receipts	45,792	57,776
Receipts From Trading Activities	992	1,479
Receipts from Assets	3,977	3,642
Sub-total	50,761	62,897
Other receipts (not counting as "Gross Income")	-	-
Total receipts	50,761	62,897
Payments		
Functional Analysis		
Payments directly for Charitable Purposes	25,158	52,572
Payments for publicity, fundraising, Management & administration	11,644	10,809
Sub-total	36,802	63,381
Other payments (not counting as "expenditure")	280	280
Total Payments	37,082	63,661
Net of Receipts/(Payments)	13,679	(764)
Cash funds brought forward	193,148	193,912
Cash funds carried forward	206,827	193,148

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

Cash Funds	Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Restricted Funds 2019 £
Current Account	6,002	2,589
Deposit Account	100,093	90,559
One Year Bond	100,000	100,000
Paypal Account	732	-
	206,827	193,148
Less Uncleared	-	-
Total Cash Funds	206,827	193,148

Investment assets	Unrestricted Funds Year End Value	Unrestricted Funds Year End Value
Lion Trust (was Architas) (For Income)	191,234	185,455
Aberdeen Multimanager Funds (For Capital Growth)	189,967	184,560

Assets Retained for the Charity's Own Use

Computer & Peripherals to assist in Club Management
Library of Books for loan to & reference by members
Library of Microscope Slides for loan to & reference by members
Video Library for loan to & reference by members
Microscopes & accessories for use by members
Digital camera & printer for recording the slide collection
Data Projector for use with Power Point Applications

Signed on behalf of the Trustees on 9 March 2021 by:

Stephen Parker – Honorary Treasurer