

Charity number: 232476

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

**QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB**

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**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 31<sup>st</sup> 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').

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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.

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

12<sup>th</sup> 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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

23<sup>rd</sup> April Midlands Meeting – Haling Dene Centre, Penkridge Gossip with demonstrations, sales and photo competition, followed by lectures.

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

22<sup>nd</sup> 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.

28<sup>th</sup> 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.

11<sup>th</sup> 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.

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

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

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

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

**QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB**  
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20<sup>th</sup> August Gossip meeting – Preparing images for competition Zoom only event.  
Lots of tips from the experienced microscopists.

26<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> 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.

10<sup>th</sup> September Workshop – PA135, NHM.  
Filters and spectroscopy.

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

24<sup>th</sup> September Gossip Meeting – Langton Matravers, Dorset.

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

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

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

10<sup>th</sup> 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.

- 12<sup>th</sup> 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.
- 15<sup>th</sup> October 2022 – physical event with displays and awards.
- 15<sup>th</sup> 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.



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**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE**  
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**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 7<sup>th</sup> 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.

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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**

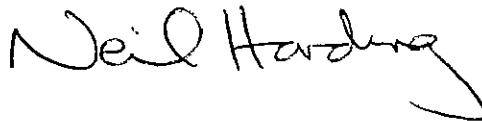
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 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**

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

## QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB

### STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31 DECEMBER 2022


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

	<b>Unrestricted Funds Year End Value</b>	<b>Unrestricted Funds Year End Value</b>
<b>Investment assets</b>		
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