



# The Lancashire and North West Beekeepers Association

Affiliated to the British Beekeepers Association

Lancashire and North West B.K.A

(Founded 1882. Reconstructed separately 1899)Registered  
Charity No 506167

**Handbook and annual reports 2022-23**

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## Officers of the Association

President - Mr Martin Smith

Chair - Mrs Viki Cuthbertson

Vice - Chair - Mr Michael Gardner

Hon Gen Sec - Mrs Jan Blanthorn-Hazell

Hon Treasurer - Mr Ian Bickerstaffe

Hon Convention Officer - Mrs Liane Doree

Hon Handbook Sec. - Ms Diane Drinkwater

Hon Honey Show Officer -Mrs Elaine Hargreaves

Hon Webmaster - Mr Mark Oakley

Hon Education co-ordinator - Mrs Viki Cuthbertson

Hon Examinations Officer - Mrs Robina Johnstone

Hon Examiner of Accounts incoming – Mr Conor Edwards

Disease Liaison Officer - Miss Caroline Coughlin

Beecraft Rep & Trophies Officer- Mrs Jan Blanthorn Hazell

BDI Rep - Mr Martin Smith\*

ADM Rep -Mr Dave Heaton

\* It is noted that Mr Smith is also President of BDI. The Council is satisfied that this does not present any conflict of issues

## **LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE**

Status Registered Charity Number 506167

Patrons None

President Martin Smith

General Secretary Mrs Jan Blanthorn-Hazell  
Independent Examiner (audit) Mr Conor Edwards

The Association's Bank: Metro Bank Trustees:

President Mr. Martin Smith;  
Chairperson Mrs Viki Cuthbertson  
Treasurer Mr Ian Bickerstaffe  
General Secretary Mrs Jan Blanthorn-Hazell

Objectives of the Society:

The primary Objectives of the charity are:

To promote and further the craft of beekeeping

To advance the education of the public in the importance of bees in the environment and the economy.

## Reports 2023

### Chairman's Report

Looking back on 2023 made me wonder if we're currently enjoying the golden years of beekeeping in the UK as we know it.

We've weathered Varroa successfully but Asian Hornet's potential for destruction, both of our bees and (just as importantly) other insects, is extremely worrying.

The updates coming from the South last year should be a wake up for us all to remain vigilant and endeavour to engage and educate the general public at every opportunity.

To that end, I'd like to express a huge thank you to our Bee Inspectors and beekeeping colleagues along the South Coast for their efforts so far in stemming the tide of Asian Hornet infestations.

Closer to home we've had a few changes on the Council.

- Martin became our President at the last AGM.
- Mike has resigned as Secretary with Jan temporarily filling in until this AGM.
- and Arthur has resigned as Treasurer.

My thanks to all of them, with a special mention to Mike who has been our rock for a quite a few years now.

Recognition is also due for my other Council colleagues:

- Liane for organising today's convention.
- Elaine for once again retaining her sanity whilst organising our Honey Show (please get your entries in earlier this year!);
- Viki and Robina for managing our education and qualifications.
- Mark for his web prowess.
- Dave for representing us and our propositions at the ADM
- and Diane as our BBKA link trustee.

Finally, as ever, a huge thank you to the unsung heroes on the branch committees. None of this would work without you.

Have a great 2024.

Michael Gardner

Chairman Lancashire & Northwest Beekeepers Association

## Hon Treasurer Consolidated Accounts

### Lancashire and North West Beekeepers Association Central Council Accounts to 31st October 2023

2022	Income	2023	2022	Expenditure	2023
£20,604.50	Capitation from Branches	£21,259.90	£160.00	Room Hire	£0.00
£0.59	Bank Interest	£0.00	£56.00	Insurance	£0.00
£126.37	Donations	£135.58	£18,845.00	BBKA Capitation	£19,434.00
£1,716.00	Conventions	£1,499.50	£0.00	Subs/Donations	£152.37
£383.00	Members Honey Show	£387.50	£618.46	Members Honey Show	£1,615.81
£13,784.70	Tax Refunds from HMRC	£0.00	£1,413.00	Conventions	£1,295.00
£850.00	Education	£35.00	£0.00	Education	£366.00
£159.90	Sundry	£141.00	£320.00	Honoraria	£320.00
£0.00	Raffles	£432.00	£0.00	Engraving	£829.80
			£14,145.17	Branch Tax Refunds from HMRC	£0.00
			£504.10	Sundry	£133.00
				Exams	£1,060.00
				Admin (Bank Charges)	£0.00
			£0.00	Lancs Cap rebate to branches	£0.00
			£17.74	Web	£0.00
<b>£37,625.06</b>	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>£23,890.48</b>	<b>£36,079.47</b>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>£25,205.98</b>
£164.80	Opening Cash Balance	£107.20	£107.20	Closing Cash Balance	£0.00
£12,400.21	Opening Bank balance	£16,566.89	£16,566.89	Closing Bank balance	£15,358.59
£3,527.49	Opening savings Account	£0.00	£0.00	Closing savings Account	£0.00
<b>£16,092.50</b>		<b>£16,674.09</b>	<b>£16,674.09</b>		<b>£15,358.59</b>
<del>£1,368.00</del>	unpres cheque	<del>£0.00</del>	<del>£0.00</del>	unpres cq	<del>£0.00</del>
£499.50	undeposited funds	£0.00	£95.50	undeposited funds	£0.00
<b>£15,224.00</b>		<b>£16,674.09</b>	<b>£16,769.59</b>		<b>£15,358.59</b>
<b>£52,849.06</b>		<b>£40,564.57</b>	<b>£52,849.06</b>		<b>£40,564.57</b>



Signed **Ian Bickerstaffe** Honorary Treasurer

Date **14th June 2024**

**Lancashire and North West Beekeepers Association Consolidated Accounts to 31st October 2023**

2022	Income	2023	2022 Expenditure	2023	
29,584.93	Subscriptions	27,353.48	1,057.13	Printing & Stationery	514.68
1,737.17	Donations	1,128.75	19,124.10	B.B.K.A Capitation	20,905.60
-	Adverts	-	84.00	Insurance	28.00
311.57	Interest	59.58	7,413.85	Honey Shows	12,933.33
7,283.05	Honey Shows	9,382.97	2,505.48	B.D.I.	3,037.90
3,883.25	B.D.I. Extra Hives	2,198.00	4,576.84	Education	5,475.88
13,049.60	Education	12,004.40	4,447.24	Equipment	1,652.63
-	Equipment	13.00	1,413.00	Convention	1,295.00
1,716.00	Convention	1,499.50	350.09	Socials Functions	1,364.62
538.95	Socials & Raffles	1,080.37	1,769.50	Rooms	1,447.75
13,784.70	Tax Refunds (Gift Aid)	-	1,935.88	Lecturers	910.40
441.52	Treatments	1,897.77	31.00	Treatments	2,193.07
-	Newsletters	-	3,030.00	Newsletters/magazines	-
-	Apiary Income	3,647.62	320.00	Honoraria	320.00
556.18	Sundry Income	1,507.23	86.50	Cup Engrav. & Repairs	829.80
-	Grants	-	-	Handbook	-
700.00	Fundraising	851.06	2,072.20	Subs & Donations	929.90
-	Capitation	-	279.37	Sundries	2,200.22
15,551.45	Sales to members	18,375.13	-	Books	-
-	Funds introduced	-	2,742.62	Admin incl postage	1,298.05
			6,797.56	Apiary	10,964.14
			155.68	Bank charges	-
			-	Gift aid to branches	-
			11,785.11	Purchases for resale	16,568.26
			-	Funds transferred	-
<b>89,138.37</b>	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>80,998.86</b>	<b>71,977.15</b>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>84,869.23</b>
432.58	Opening Cash Balance	7,648.95	542.95	Closing Cash Balance	9,370.95
98,387.79	Opening Bank Balance	106,941.35	109,727.14	Closing Bank Balance	101,853.53
- 1,368.00	unpresented chq	-	-	unpresented chq	- 504.55
499.50	undeposited funds	-	365.50	undeposited funds	-
2,628.50	stock	-	7,106.00	stock	-
<b>100,580.37</b>	<b>Adjusted</b>	<b>114,590.30</b>	<b>117,741.59</b>	<b>Adjusted</b>	<b>110,719.93</b>
<b>189,718.74</b>	<b>Assets + Income</b>	<b>195,589.16</b>	<b>189,718.74</b>	<b>Assets + Expenditure</b>	<b>195,589.16</b>

**Note:**

1. HMRC Gift Aid refund not claimed for Tax Year 22/23 and 23/24



Signed  
Ian Bickerstaffe Hon Treasurer

Date 14/6/24



Signed  
Thomas Gent Independent Examiner

Date 14/6/24

## **Hon Examinations Secretary Report to Central Council December 2023.**

### **BASIC CERTIFICATE**

There were 40 applications this year, 39 were assessed and passed. It was very pleasing to see high grades achieved by many Lancashire members.

Totals: PASS 11 CREDIT 24 DISTINCTION 4

EAST LANCS P3 C5  
BLACKPOOL C2 D1  
LIVERPOOL C1  
ORMSKIRK & CROSTON C7 D2  
PRESTON P4 C5 D1  
LANCASTER P4 C3  
OLDHAM C1

### **MARCH 2023 MODULES**

18 candidates took Modules and again high grades were achieved.

EAST LANCS P3 C1 D2  
BLACKPOOL C2  
O & C P2 1 INTERMEDIATE THEORY  
PRESTON P3 C3 D1  
LANCASTER D1  
OLDHAM P1

### **MARCH 2023**

Two candidates who applied and paid fees for their papers to be re-marked remain dissatisfied. Each has submitted a personal complaint directly to the Exam Board.

MARCH 2024 one Module application to date.

### **GENERAL HUSBANDRY P4**

### **NOVEMBER 2023 MODULES**

Lancashire members applied for Online and In Person Module Exams.

One declined to take his two Modules on the grounds of the date being inconvenient and his application was cancelled by Nicky Campbell.

One member has informed me of Online issues which prevented the candidate from completing the paper. If there are any others with concerns/complaints please ask them to contact me.

### **BBKA SURVEY OF EXAM SECRETARIES.**

Recent feedback from the Exam Board stated that the majority of Associations are satisfied with the level of service and help they receive. Only 2 were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied. (Lancashire & North West and Yorkshire)

This matter will be dealt with at 2024 ADM.

### **To Conclude**

Lancashire members clearly have an appetite for education. This is demonstrated in willingness to provide courses and the achievements of those who take BBKA qualifications.

Thanks as always to Mike Lavelle and Viki Cuthbertson for their support. I very much appreciate the help of Branch Education Officers and others involved in training candidates for their assistance when candidates encounter problems. Thanks too to Ian Hinde for his assistance with the November In-Person Modules.

Robina Johnstone, Examination Secretary

## Branch Contact Details

Please visit the branch websites for up-to-date contact details and details on how to join

Lancashire and North West BKA

<https://www.lancashirebeekeepers.org.uk/>

Blackpool and Fylde

<http://www.blackpoolbees.co.uk/>

East Lancashire

<http://www.eastlancsbees.org.uk/>

Lancaster

<http://www.lancaster-beekeepers.org.uk/>

Liverpool and District

<http://www.liverpoolbeekeepers.co.uk/>

Oldham & District

<http://www.odbka.org>

Ormskirk and Croston

<https://www.ormskirkbeekeepers.org.uk/>

Preston and District

<http://www.prestonbka.org.uk/>

Southport and District

<http://www.southportbeekeepers.co.uk/>

## Branch Annual Reports

Each Branch provides an annual report for this handbook.



## **Blackpool and Fylde**

<http://www.blackpoolbees.co.uk/>

### **Chairman's Report – Paul Leeks**

This summer we managed to relocate to a much better site at Brookfield School in Poulton which, not only has a better environment for the bees, but also is located right in the middle of our club area; making it much easier for all members to attend on a Sunday morning. We now have two new and (currently) thriving colonies which will hopefully make it through winter ready for next year.

We once again had a very successful Bee Awareness Day at Lytham Hall during the summer which attracted many visitors and brought in good revenue for the club.

Great Eccleston Show was also a tremendous success. Our 'Bee Tent' was packed for most of the weekend and the feedback we got from the public was wonderful. It seems everybody not only loves bees but also loves hearing all the incredible facts we beekeepers have at hand to amaze and educate. Again, the stand made valuable revenue for the club through sales of honey, candles and other bee-related items.

So, I'd like to say a huge thank you to everybody who participated in both these events. They were both very hectic and, because we struggled to get an adequate number of members to participate, were extremely arduous work for those who did volunteer to help the club.

So, I would once again encourage all members to get involved in these events. They really are great fun. And, again, if we get the numbers, the commitment is minimal; only about four hours of your time.

Finally, we had two very enjoyable out-apiary days at Doris' and Michael's with lots of beekeeping tips and advice, plenty of hands-on practical experience (particularly at Doris's!) and, of course, the usual excellent hospitality at both.

Huge thanks also to Janet who once again ran her highly successful Bee Introductory Days with theory sessions at St Martin's and St Hilda's Church Hall in Carleton coupled with hands-on practical sessions at Peter's apiary near Lytham the out apiary. On top of all that, Janet has also found time to teach several educational courses for our members preparing for their BBKA modules.

Thanks also go to Peter, our web master, who as well as making his bees available for the Bee Intro Days, has maintained the club's website for members and the local general public.

Last, but not least, thanks to Michael for being our representative on the North West Committee and feeding back to us directives from on high and helping us to have a voice at regional level.

Finally, thank you to you, all our members for your continued support for the club. We are lucky to have so many skilled members and, as I mentioned earlier, all the club's highly successful meetings and events could not happen without our members tremendous hard work and dedication.

We hold a Bee Awareness Day at Lytham Hall (2024 date is Wed 29th May) which is always very popular, with an observation hive and members' hive products on sale.

We also held 2 awareness sessions in local shopping centres last year, and one is already planned for this year, plus a session in local schools.

A popular stand is always held at Gt Eccleston Show, this year 13th-14th July.

## **East Lancashire**

<http://www.eastlancsbees.org.uk/>

### **Chair's report 2022-2023**

I am happy to report another successful year for the club, our bees remain healthy and we have provided training opportunities to lots of members  
Membership has increased again and the Apiary sessions remain popular with new beekeepers.

#### **Apiary**

Our relationship with Newground staff at offshoots continues to be good, however there have been some car parking issues which remain less than ideal.

We have been fortunate enough to establish a second apiary at Gawthorpe Hall. This will enable us to provide a better training experience, reducing the competing demands of club sessions and assessments.

We have distributed the honey produced between Offshoots, Gawthorpe Hall, Apiary leads and the foodbanks in Burnley and Clitheroe

### **Community engagement events 2022-2023**

May 2023	Gorple Girls and Womens group – talk 'A year in the Life of a Beekeeper'
May 2023	Educational visit by a beekeeper St Bartholomews Primary school reception class
June 2023	Schools team visit to St Mary's Hall Junior school, Hurst Green
June 2023	Beekeeping information stall with Observation hive at Accrington Ecofest
June 2023	Educational activities with St Mary Magdalene School – 4 members involved
June 2023	Home Education group - Educational morning with a Beekeeper
Summer 2023	Primary school bee educational visit by a beekeeper
October 2023	Beekeeping information stall and honey tasting at Gawthorpe Hall NT open day

## **Lancaster**

<http://www.lancaster-beekeepers.org.uk/>

### **Vice Chair's – Annual Report**

Report of the vice chairman I wish to thank all those who have served on the officers of the club for the time given to the club and the excellent way they have carried out those duties. I particularly wish to thank Chris Humphries for his unstinting work for the club as chairman and swarm coordinator and your many other roles to many to list which you carry out with such enthusiasm. You have given the society a 100% and I know the support he has given to Emma our secretary and Jenny our treasurer has been greatly appreciated.

Emma you are a star the hours you have given to the club are amazing. You are dependable reliable and always cheerful. The perfect club secretary.

Jenny thank you very much for your work as treasurer. Your work unfortunately goes unnoticed unless things go wrong. Well done Jenny nothing amiss. We all grateful for what you have and are doing.

Mark you have done so much to raise the standard of education in the club. Your fame as a trainer is reflected in the number of people wanting to attend the beginners courses we run.

Thank also for the work you have done with Chris at the apiary.

Can I also thank the rest of the committee for all they have done over the past year. There are many other members who have helped support the club in many ways particularly Kirsty who has worked closely with Mark and Chris insuring the apiary is well run. Linda and Richard thank you for all you have done. Thank you very much one and all it is greatly appreciated. We have fulfilled our mission by having an open day event to promote the club and good beekeeping practices. Provided education advice to members directly or via WhatsApp, thank you one and all for this. The club is constantly improving the quality of the members' knowledge, Mark has passed yet another exam and Chris and Mark are both taking further exams.

So a summary of the year, Open Day and Beginners Course were both successful and well attended. The club was represented at The Highest Point Festival in Williamson's Park, The Judges' Lodgings and Carnforth Carnival. A Honey Extraction workshop was held at Linda and Richards home.

Members entered the Lancashire Honey show and came away with 4 firsts, 2nd a third and a very highly recommended. Plus, the club won the Lancashire Association Clubs trophy. Zoom meetings were held on many topics and the club apiary bees produced over 40kg of honey.

### **The Apiary**

The top bar was repopulated again this year but has sadly failed again. Chris has also brought his long hive (built by Vincent) which is now in our bee cage. The club has 9 colonies to overwinter and apart from two nucs, which will come to my house, the rest will stay on site. The apiary tidy up day last weekend was very well attended (thank you all) and the container is now very well organised. In January/February, I'll organise a day when we will lay the rest of the hedge and get the apiary ready for another season.

I'd like to thank all the club members who help with the training, especially Emma who does a lot of the organising and Chris and Kirsti who have done the majority of the club bee inspections this year. I'd also like to thank those members who gave zoom lectures to the beginners.

**Liverpool and District**

<http://www.liverpoolbeekeepers.co.uk/>

Liverpool & District Branch had around 80 members during the year and undertook a range of activities towards advising and teaching people interested in taking up the craft of beekeeping. Branch members were on the national swarm collection map and engaged in both swarm collecting and giving advice to the public about all sorts of bees including bumble bees, wasps as well as honey bees.

**Oldham & District**  
<http://www.odbka.org>

I can confirm that there was a significant increase in general public enquiries. The main themes have been swarms, but also bumble and wasp issues that had my intervention to point elsewhere. It is obvious, but also appropriate, that for example, the council are properly redirecting the public to ourselves to deal with honey bee problems, but now it is clear we have a responsibility to our communities to educate them in honey bee welfare and appropriate actions for other pollinators that are an issue for them.

The secretary has been very helpful in proof reading and distributing the newsletter by email (ER2). Hard copies have fallen off the radar in recent months- partly communication and physical resources.

Changes to the newsletter construction have been few this year- periodically a new section called HOW TO has been added. The "gaff" section has been dropped as there were very few contributors- became natural death.

As Editor I have concentrated on developing a monthly in depth section- "The Apiary in .. as a practical guide to members for action and consideration no matter how experienced members are. The intention is to develop this further where changes to practice become evident such as emphasising more varroa monitoring and pinpointing Asian hornet observations in spring and late summer (September).

## Ormskirk and Croston

<https://www.ormskirkbeekeepers.org.uk/>

Membership for the branch is 228 for the past year, which is an increase from 220 last year. 3 of these are junior schools which is extremely pleasing.

Out of 40 people who took the Introductory course in 2022, 24 were retained this year.

The Introduction to Beekeeping course this season attracted 33 new members, all extremely enthusiastic.

### Schedule of meetings

During the summer season the following meetings took place as follows: -

Monthly Branch meetings at Fir tree Farm Apiary.

Out Apiary Team meetings at both FTF and Aughton apiaries.

Our second branch apiary at Aughton, organised by a small team last year, led by our chairman, Martin Smith, continues to be successful and is working very well, as is Fair Tree Farm apiary.

The Branch Honey Show This took place in Aughton Village Hall on the 2nd September.

This was a very enjoyable successful day, organised by Graham Curwen.

Graham Hull is our Swarm collector coordinator. The current season began with 16 swarm collectors.

Two members decided to retire from this position and one other member joined, so we currently have 15 swarm collectors.

In support of our charitable objectives and in accordance with BBKA policy to raise awareness of the importance

of bees and bee keeping, we attended schools, other organizations, and other public facing events as detailed below'

School visits to raise awareness of the importance of bees etc have taken place. Three primary schools and

one nursery school have been visited by one, two, three or four members of a small team in our branch to give talks and demonstrations, organised by Vicki Hall.

Organisation and planning have not always been easy, but the response of the children and staff has fully compensated for the effort needed.

Talks and demonstrations were also given by members to organisations such as a Care home, WI. groups, Church groups, Scouts, Beavers, Brownies and Allotment clubs. There may be others I am not aware of, although I do ask to be kept in touch.

Outside events, that our branch has been involved in this season include: -

The Green Fayre held in Beacon Park, Upholland, organised by Hazel Smith, our Events Coordinator.

and The Southport Flower Show. Taking part in the Southport Flower Show was under the direction of Southport branch,

A Sustainability Day at Edge Hill University organised by Vicki Hall as Hazel was working.

We usually take part in "Animal Magic at Martin Mere", but sadly it did not run this year due to an inability of Martin mere to obtain enough unusual animals.

One event involving just our branch was the "Open Day" for our apiary in Aughton. As for last year, this involved honey sales, honey tasting, members and local people looking round the apiary, demonstration of a hive etc and an auction of beekeeping equipment no longer required by some members.

Local people were really interested in the whole set up and spent a lot of time talking to branch members.

The branch web site, maintained by Graham Hull and Mark Oakley, continues to be a useful resource for members and interested parties.

Information about our programme of events and contact details can be found at

[www.ormskirkbeekeepers.org.uk](http://www.ormskirkbeekeepers.org.uk)



## **Preston and District**

<http://www.prestonbka.org.uk/>

At the year end membership had dropped slightly to 187 members.

We now have screens at the apiary separating the hives from the shop and other sheds which means we can use the seating area for training and meetings without too much interruption from our friendly bees. These proved very effective when we held our Taster Day – two days were planned but our very rainy summer put paid to one of them. We had 8 people attend and feedback was excellent. A couple of people have deferred to next year. Many thanks to the Thursday Crew for all their ongoing work and maintenance.

Our website continues to expand and we will shortly be rolling out online membership renewals and applications.

Thanks once again to Elaine Hargreaves for organising the County Honey Show and to Janet Harrison and Liane Doree for co-ordinating the club entries into the County Honey Show.

Several members won trophies and certificates at the show, reflecting the high standard of beekeeping within the club.

Spurred on by this success, Liane encouraged people to enter the National Honey Show and many people contributed material for a shop window display which won third place.

Several members also won individual prizes and certificates for honey and wax products, films and even a limerick! This is no mean feat in a national competition. Well done to all those winners.

All Preston's work is carried out by club volunteers, from booking venues for events, booking speakers, updating the Website, sending out the newsletter, ordering stock and staffing the shop, maintaining the club apiary, attending external events on our stand, teaching our new beekeepers and a range of other tasks which enable the club to run smoothly.

The shop continues to expand and is ever popular.

We have manned publicity stands at Chorley flower show and Garstang show among others. There were over 100 entries at our show, report on Website.

We have some splendid new fencing around the apiary which has improved safety. The sheds are all now finished.

We offered 2 taster days again, unfortunately they had to be combined due to inclement weather but were well received.

We entered the club classes at the County honey show again, with a calendar and a display.

This year at the National Honey show's centenary at Sandown Park, the club entered a class for a shop window exhibit by a group.

The items were supplied by a number of members and 3 of us staged it.

In a very strong class we won 3rd place with a £25 prize. The judge described it as stunning and you can see photos on the Website.



## **Southport and District**

<http://www.southportbeekeepers.co.uk/>

Yearly report Mar 2023- March 2024 Southport & District Beekeepers Association.  
The Apiary 2023-2024

Last season many new members attended the Saturday morning Introduction to Beekeeping course and they reported that they enjoyed the experience. A small collective went ahead and acquired their own bees but still continued to attend the sessions at the apiary.

In September we held a taster day for potential new members and some of those have now become full members of the SBKA.

The apiary suffered a number of vandalism attacks which knocked over all the hives, including those that were fully inhabited. The worst attack saw the apiary shed broken into and all the equipment for the Southport Flower Show and the spinning machine strewn all over the plot. Fortunately the bees that were attacked appear to have survived and hopefully will build up again this coming season. The shed door has been replaced and plans for a more secure unit are underway with the new occupants, namely Bridge Inn.

Apart from the damage, last season was very productive and most of the attendees reported that it had built their confidence enough to acquire their own bees. The season ended with a social gathering in the Windmill, Southport which was a great way to celebrate the closing of the introductory course.

Piece for Southport Flower Show,

Southport and North-West Beekeepers had a very successful presence at the Southport Flower Show in 2023. There were over 50,000 people visiting the show and over the four days a large percentage of these visited our Honey and Bee Marquee.

Within the marquee we had several types of exhibits including two observation hives, a virtual hive, a useful hands-on tool to explain the workings of the hive and bees, over 60 judged classes including, displays of honey, mead, wax cakes, candles, plants, flowers, photographs, bee equipment, artwork, cakes and biscuits. We also had a demonstration of skep making, with educational information about the skills of this craft and how these have been used over the years.

We had over 30 volunteers helping in the marquee. These volunteers explained to visitors the various entries and exhibits, engaging, and encouraging everyone to want to learn more about bees and beekeeping.

The opportunity to have a go at candle making proved to be very popular and it was also very busy at the honey tasting table with all the tasting samples provided by local beekeepers. People tasting the various honeys were surprised about the huge differences in them, even some of the people who said they did not like the taste of honey were able to find a sample they did like.

Another big crowd pleaser were our live bee demonstrations, held a number of times over the four days of the show. Giving people the opportunity to see a beekeeper looking inside a hive and observing bee behaviour while the beekeeper explained what he was doing and why. The public showed a lot of interest in wanting to know how to help bees and what to plant to give them better sources of pollen and nectar. There was a great deal of concern about the overall welfare of all bees with children showing a lot of enthusiasm in learning more.

The Flower Show this year went very well and for a change, we had good weather. Well done Jeanette for your excellent organization. Next year is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Flower show. Watch this space!?

The branch has 59 members.

## **Northern Region Bee Unit Report**

The National Bee Unit no longer publish their regional reports. Data is available on their website in the form of maps which shows the North West region is free of both European and American Foulbrood:

<https://www.nationalbeeunit.com/diseases-and-pests/reports-charts-and-maps/maps-2>

More information about the Statutory Apiary Inspection programme can be found here:

<https://www.nationalbeeunit.com/about-us/apiary-inspection-programme/the-statutory-apiary-inspection-programme-3/>

# Lancashire and North West Beekeepers Association Consolidated Accounts to 31st October 2023

2022	Income	2023	2022 Expenditure	2023	
£29,585	Subscriptions	£27,386	£0	Postages	£0
£1,737	Donations	£1,110	£1,057	Printing & Stationery	£525
£0	Adverts	£0	£19,124	B.B.K.A Capitation	£20,785
£312	Interest	£60	£84	Insurance	£28
£7,283	Honey Shows	£7,180	£7,414	Honey Shows	£11,016
£3,883	B.D.I. Extra Hives	£2,198	£2,505	B.D.I.	£3,027
£13,050	Education	£11,869	£4,577	Education	£5,496
£0	Equipment	£13	£4,447	Equipment	£2,123
£1,716	Convention	£1,500	£1,413	Convention	£1,295
£539	Socials & Raffles	£1,753	£350	Socials Functions	£1,365
£13,785	Tax Refunds (Gift Aid)	£0	£1,770	Rooms	£1,448
£442	Treatments	£1,898	£1,936	Lecturers	£910
£0	Newsletters	£0	£31	Treatments	£2,224
£0	Apiary Income	£3,648	£3,030	Newsletters/magazines	£0
£556	Sundry Income	£1,537	£320	Honoraria	£320
£0	Grants	£0	£87	Cup Engrav. & Repairs	£830
£700	Fundraising	£851	£0	Handbook	£0
£0	Capitation	£0	£2,072	Subs & Donations	£957
£15,551	Sales to members	£18,375	£279	Sundries	£2,200
£0	Funds introduced	£0	£0	Books	£0
			£2,743	Admin incl postage	£1,296
			£6,798	Apiary	£10,995
			£156	Bank charges	£0
			£0	Gift aid to branches	£0
			£11,785	Purchases for resale	£16,568
			£0	Funds transferred	
£89,138	Total Income	£79,377	£71,977	Total Expenditure	£83,408
£433	Opening Cash Balance	£7,653	£543	Closing Cash Balance	£9,370
£98,388	Opening Bank Balance	£105,601	£109,727	Closing Bank Balance	£100,358
-£1,368	unpresented chq	£0	£0	unpresented chq	-£505
£500	undeposited funds	£0	£366	undeposited funds	£0
£2,629	stock		£7,106	stock	
£100,580	Adjusted	£113,254	£117,742	Adjusted	£109,223
£189,719	Assets + Income	£192,630	£189,719	Assets + Expenditure	£192,630

Note:



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

Lancashire and North West Beekeepers Association

On accounts for the year  
ended

31 October 2023

Charity no  
(if any)

506167

Set out on pages

1

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31.10.2023.

Responsibilities and  
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent  
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below \*) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

*T. Rodney*

Date: 14/06/2024

Name:

Thomas Rodney Gent

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):

Address:

18 The Vinery

New Longton

Lancashire PR4 4YB